

A Martial Odyssey

(A Martial Odyssey)

Volume 02

The Celestial Realm

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Story Description:

“It is said that when a martial exponent reached the highest state of divinity of their arts, they be able to transcend into Celestials, overcoming the limitation of life and death. And as Celestials, they have to overcome seven celestial divinity, Genesis, Enlighten, Emotion, Transverse, Seventh Sense, Crisis and Ascend in order to transcend to the Heavens.”

A Martial Odyssey is an epic quasi-fantasy/wuxia fiction, of a young man Yi Ping as he braved untold dangers in the martial fraternity. The powerful Honor Manor rules the Orthodox Martial Fraternity, yet there are other equally mysterious martial clans that are outside the influence of the orthodox fraternity; like the Eternal Ice Palace, the Virtuous Palace and the Celestial Palace.

When the Celestial Fairy of the Eternal Ice Palace is rumored to pass away, it immediately attracted the attention of numerous exponents that undertake the perilous journey to the Heavenly Mountains for the martial secrets of the Eternal Ice Palace.

Original Story can be found here: [Link](#)

Chapter 71: The Three Celestial Maidens

It was a moonless night and the streets were empty.

The four sentries of the Enchains Sect were looking bored and were casually chatting quietly with each other.

The Enchains Sect was a small clan in the Western Martial Fraternity but in this small town, it was now the most influential clan among several clans.

One year ago, a major conflict between the various martial clans took place at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains. It was a terrifying battle between good and evil that saw dozens of martial clans disappearing overnight and hundreds of martial clans were so badly affected that it would take them a long time to recover.

The Enchains Sect was a small clan then and it was the Septuagint Clan that was the dominating clan in this town. However during the battle at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains, the Septuagint Clan suffered a crippling loss and many of its best fighters were killed or injured. Because of that, the Enchains Sect rose to be the dominant clan in this small town.

All of a sudden, the four sentries froze in their tracks as they could sense something was amiss; there was a light fragrance scent in the air!

The leader of the sentries immediately spoke in a firm voice to the others, "Be on your alert! Someone is here..."

But before he could finish speaking, they were all stunned and one of the sentries even dropped his sword on the ground by what they had seen!

It was because an alluring heavenly maiden in white had just come into view and was taking slow strides toward them!

It was she that had caused them to be startled!

In the dead of the night even if she was the most striking maiden that they had ever seen, she was like a haunting apparition that had totally freaked them out completely! Moreover, they could see that her alluring eyes were crimson in color! Indeed no one had seen anyone with eyes like

her!

She may be walking very slowly but she was soon in front of them.

The four sentries were all trembling with great fear and they were convinced that she was indeed a ghost. What else other than a ghost could move so quietly and so swift?

The beautiful apparition gave an alluring smile, "I am looking for someone. Can you open the gate for me to continue my search?"

The sentries slowly relaxed after realizing that she was just human and not what they had feared. Moreover, she was not armed and was alone.

The Sentry Leader grew bold as he looked at his men who were harboring the same thoughts as him; here was a beautiful maiden that had delivered herself to them and it would be foolish of them to let her go just like this.

Therefore the Sentry Leader eyed her lecherously after noting that she was really a rare beauty. As a matter of fact, he had never seen anyone like her and was still in disbelief that such a beautiful maiden was now standing before his eyes. He quickly added, "May we know maiden's name and who are you looking for?"

The alluring maiden raised her eyebrows as though she could sense their ill intentions as she said with a soft murmur, "I am the Heaviness. I do not know the name of that person but I am sure that they are inside."

The Sentry Leader nodded quietly to his men even as he laughed aloud, "Since maiden does not want to reveal your true name to us, that's alright. Why don't you come with us to the back alley? We know a backdoor that can get you inside without anyone knowing so that you can search for the person that you are looking for?"

This young maiden who called herself the Heaviness may be innocent looking but she had seen through their little tricks immediately. With a wave of her slender hand, she had immediately knocked all four of them onto the ground as they moaned painfully on the ground!

The four men were stunned!

They had never seen anyone strike with such a swift martial move and disabling the four of them at the same time!

The Heaveness looked quietly at the forbidding iron-gate as she hesitated for a while.

The iron-gate only had a protruding iron ring on its gates. Anyone that wanted to enter the iron-gate must grab the iron ring and knocked it against the gate to alert the guards that were inside. It was because the iron-gate was held into place by a large iron bar on the other side!

The Sentry Leader coughed out a mouthful of blood as he muttered weakly, "Who are you? Do you think that the Enchains Sect will let you off just like this? You may have defeated us but there are still hundreds of us more inside!"

The Heaveness turned to him as she smiled coyly, "Is that so?"

She simply raised her right hand and forced opened the iron-gate with the sheer might of her martial force, stunning them as she walked into the grounds of the Enchains Sect!

Barely had she just entered inside, several scuffle cries could be heard inside as she rampaged her way in!

The Heaveness was immediately surrounded by dozens of armed fighters as she stood serenely at the martial platform leading to the interior of the Enchains Sect.

A man with a bushy beard who was wielding a big sabre shouted aloud, "Who are you! How dare you barge into the Enchains Sect?"

The Heaveness sighed softly as she asked, "Just who are you?"

The bushy man roared with anger, "Just who I am? I am the Protégé Leader of the Enchains Sect! I am Wen Zhong! You didn't know who I am and you have dared to barge into my territory and even injure my men?"

As he roared with anger, he had suddenly halted. It was because he was captivated by her alluring beauty. But at the same time, he was also alarmed; it was because he had noticed that her eyes were unlike others.

But he quickly composed himself and said with a somewhat soften manner, “Just because you have a petite face, do you think I will be soft on you?”

It was because Wen Zhong had already noticed that more than half of his clan protégés were already mesmerized by her beauty and were staring at her blankly.

The Heaveness said coldly, “Beneath the flesh are just blood and bones. I am no different from the rest of you. So you are the Protégé Leader. Good! I am the Heaveness and I am here to look for something. If you are willing to hand it over, I will go immediately.”

Wen Zhong looked a little startled. He had never heard of anyone with the fraternity name of the Heaveness. Because she did not state her clan of origin, he garnered a guess that she may not be from a major clan.

So he roared with laughter, “It seems that I must teach you a lesson first. It is not a place where you can come and go as you please. It is also not a place that you can make your demands! Just who do you think you are? Just because you have learnt some martial moves, you think you can be insolent in my territory?!”

Even though he was raising his voice fiercely, the alluring maiden did not appear to be daunted by him. Instead she scanned her alluring eyes at everyone.

Wen Zhong was already entertaining ill-intentional thoughts on her. Just as he was about to rebuke her further, an old woman walked quietly to his side and asked him. “Son, who is this maiden?”

This old woman had a walking stick and was helped by a frail old steward.

But when the old woman and the old steward saw her eyes, they were also slightly startled.

Wen Zhong managed a weak smile. It was because there was nothing he feared more than his aged mother. He was really afraid that his aged mother would interfere in his decisions.

Even though he was the Protégé Leader of the Enchains Sect but the real controller was actually the Old Matriarch Wen!

Old Matriarch Wen smiled as she looked at her son, “Son, you have been flirting around and now your troubles come knocking on its own accord.”

Wen Zhong smiled weakly, “I do not know her. This is the first time that we have met.”

Old Matriarch Wen smiled at the Heaveness as she appraised her with her keen eyes. She must admit that the maiden that had intruded into the Enchains Sect was indeed extremely stunning. In fact, she had never seen anyone as captivating as her. If she was a man, she would surely fall in love with her but she was not.

However, the alluring maiden that called herself the Heaveness was looking at her sternly and was saying coldly to her instead. “Hand it over. I know that you have it.”

Old Matriarch Wen growled in bewilderment, “Hand what over?”

The Heaveness said coldly, “The Heavenly Relic!”

Old Matriarch Wen and the old steward turned ashen immediately!

The Heaveness had been searching the fraternity for the Heavenly Relics with her innate senses and her search had led her to this small town. There were two more Heavenly Relics more to go before the Celestial Star Formation could be completed for the transition to Beyond, the Celestial Realm.

The Heaveness said unhappily, “Quick hand it over or I won’t be polite anymore.”

After a while, Old Matriarch Wen said slowly. “Just who are you? I don’t know what you are talking about.”

The Heaveness sighed softly, “You surely know what I am talking about and I even know that the Heavenly Relic is on you now.”

Her innate sense had sensed that the Heavenly Relic was in this place and when this old woman had appeared, she immediately knew that the

Heavenly Relic was with her. There was no mistaking the spiritual aura of the Heavenly Relic.

Old Matriarch Wen had suddenly turn hostile and there was a malevolent air around her, “I really don’t know who you are but today you are not getting out of here alive!”

Wen Zhong was alarmed. It was because his mother was not someone that gave empty threats. So he panicky said, “Mother...”

All of a sudden, the frail old steward leapt with surprise agility and attacked the young alluring maiden with a startling speed as he displayed half a dozen of forceful fists!

The protégés of the Enchains Sect were stunned and were in awe of the old steward. It was because they had never thought that the old steward was a super exponent and his moves would be so ingenious!

The young alluring maiden was startled and she barely avoided his attacks.

In a split second, she had raised her palm just in time to parry off the old steward’s strokes. But because the old steward was really too formidable and merciless, she was forced to take five steps back!

In a blink of an eye, they had exchanged dozens of strokes, stunning everyone with their speed attacks!

Wen Zhong was stunned. This young, seemingly vulnerable maiden was also a super martial exponent and her swift movements were surprising agile!

However, the old steward was the more formidable fighter and in another blink of an eye, he had gained the upper hand and just as he was about to land his fist on her, he was knocked back by two flashes of shadow!

The old steward stumbled five steps backward as he shouted coldly, “Who is that!?”

Right beside the young alluring maiden were another two extremely

beautiful maidens in a fine yellow dress and a gray dress!

It was the yellow dressed maiden that had knocked the old steward back with a forceful palm attack. Like the young alluring maiden in white, she was also unarmed.

However, the maiden in gray dress was armed and carried a beautiful adorned long sword.

The old steward's fists were trembling and he was startled!

He had received a powerful impact on his fists that his entire arm was trembling lightly. He was already thinking, "Who is this maiden? Why is it possible that a young maiden like her will possess such a powerful internal strength? It is not possible. Is she using a trick?"

The Heaviness laughed softly, "Who takes you all so long to arrive?"

The exquisite maiden in gray dress replied softly, "You should have waited for us before barging in here. Who knows what dangers await you."

The mesmerizing maiden in yellow dress nodded, "The heretic sect is not something that you think you can handle alone. If something happens to you, Ping'Er would surely be heartbroken."

The Heaviness laughed softly, "I hope to get his attention and make him worry for me!"

The mesmerizing maiden in yellow gasped exasperatedly, "You!"

Old Matriarch Wen had stepped forward behind the old steward as she caught the old steward's shoulder, "Old Yang, are you alright?"

She stared coldly at the three mysterious maidens and was furrowing her eyebrows. It was because their martial skills were simply too extraordinary for their age.

Incredulously, all three of them had the same crimson eyes!

The old steward was also staring at them, "Who are you!"

The mesmerizing maiden in yellow muttered softly but her tone was

icily cold, "I am the Endor Vixen Fairy!"

The exquisite and demure maiden in gray looked at them with piercing eyes as though she could see their thoughts, "The Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden!"

Old Matriarch Wen groaned. It was because she had never heard of their fraternity names in the martial fraternity.

All of a sudden, she extended out her hands and dozens of shimmering light flew out in all directions as she displayed her secret projectiles!

Immediately, the Heaveness reacted by throwing dozens of secret projectiles at the same time too, deflecting the secret projectiles that were thrown at her.

The Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden was not slow either. She had drawn out her long sword with lightning speed and had parried off the speeding secret projectiles harmlessly.

The Endor Vixen Fairy had simply raised her long sleeves and the offensive secret projectiles simply rebound off harmlessly!

Old Matriarch Wen's secret projectiles were not targeted at them only. Immediately, all the protégés of Enchains Sect had yelled out with agonies as they fell dead on the ground!

The Heaveness scoffed at Old Matriarch Wen, "How ruthless to kill even your own people!"

Old Matriarch Wen was taken aback. It was because she had never expected these three maidens to evade her deadly Butterfly Projectiles so easily. From the looks of it, the alluring maiden in white was also an expert in secret projectiles and could rival her in skill.

Wen Zhong was startled, "Mother! Some of them are my most loyal subordinates!"

Old Matriarch Wen said coldly, "No one must know anything about the Heavenly Relic. Only dead men tell no tales. They have heard what they shouldn't hear and if there is someone to blame, then it is all thanks to

this maiden here. Son, you got to be ruthless if you want to survive in the martial fraternity. There are many more subordinates and other desirable beauties. Never show any weakness. Don't forget who you are!"

Old Yang stared at the three maidens as he said coldly, "Who exactly are you? Which clan are you from? How did you know we have the Heavenly Relic?"

The Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden had stepped forward, "How do I not know you? You are an elder of the Sacred Divine Clan."

Old Matriarch Wen immediately turned pale but she recovered quickly, "You know?"

The Sacred Divine Clan was a heretic sect and was opposed by the orthodox clans and the majority of the unorthodox clans. It was a secretive sect and had a fearsome reputation in the martial fraternity.

On the surface, the Enchains Sect was an orthodox clan but it was actually a secret division of the Sacred Divine Clan!

Old Matriarch Wen said coldly, "Just who are you? Since you already know who we are, why are you not afraid?"

The Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden replied calmly, "I am Dugu Yunzi, daughter of Dugu Zhen. I am Holy Mistress of the Sacred Divine Clan. Now you know who I am, why don't you pay your respects to me?"

Old Matriarch Wen spat angrily, "It is you! One year ago, you caused the deaths of the Three Evils of the West and you still have the cheek to claim to be our Holy Mistress?! Have you forgotten your oaths to the Sacred Divine Clan and the curse that will follow you if you break the oath?"

Old Yang interrupted coldly, "No matter. Since they have come on their own accord to the gates of hell, we will do them the favor and send them to the King of Hades!"

Yunzi stepped elegantly forward as she said icily, "Have you forgotten who the Matriarch Grandmaster of the Sacred Divine Clan is? It is she that wants the Heavenly Relic and the Heavenly Relic belongs to the

Sacred Divine Clan. If you still remember your oaths and hand over the Heavenly Relic quietly, you will be spared the fiery of hell of your broken oath. Or else don't blame me for not regarding both of you as elders of the Sacred Divine Clan and punishing you."

Old Yang hummed coldly, "How insolent. Even if our Matriarch Grandmaster the Heavenly Temptress is here today, she will surely stand on our side. The Heavenly Relic is our sect most precious treasure and with it, we will be able to ascend to the heavens as Celestials. We are its guardians. Even if you are still with the Sacred Divine Clan and are our Holy Mistress, you still do not have the right to take it away from us. Why do you want the Heavenly Relic for? You are too young to attempt the ascension..."

All of a sudden, he began to freeze as he stared blankly at their crimson eyes. He began to stammer, "Don't tell me, you have overcome the Divine Calamity and are now Celestials?!"

Yunzi nodded quietly as she said nonchalantly, "That's right."

Old Matriarch Wen began to tremble, "You have discovered how to ascend? How is that possible? What is the secret? What exactly happened one year ago at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains?"

The Divine Calamity was a celestial event that would descend when martial practitioners were able to reach the divine state of martial epitome and they were very close to clearing their life and death channels. It was an event that was to be feared but at the same time to be embraced. Failure to overcome the Divine Calamity would result in instant death. Overcoming the Divine Calamity would mean clearing the martial practitioner's life and death channel, resulting in extended lifespan not seen in mortals and an elevated state of divinity that gave them an edge.

Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang exchanged quiet glances quietly. They were the best of friends for many decades and almost knew what was on one another's mind; if they could eat their hearts then they would be able to become half-celestials. Not only could they prolong their

mortal lives, they could even overcome their internal strengths and martial limitations!

Therefore without waiting for Dugu Yunzi to reply them, they had both attacked her at the same time!

Old Matriarch Wen had jumped over and had imbued her hand with a powerful martial force to send a powerful blow towards her forehead while Old Yang had stooped down with surprising agility and had used a despicable underhand stroke to attack between her legs!

A blue wisp of faint blue glowing sphere appeared in Dugu Yunzi's left hand as she raise her palm to receive Old Matriarch Wen's attack as a thunderous clap occurred in mid-air. At the same time, she whirled her long sword and sent it flying in a circular spin towards Old Yang!

Old Yang was startled as he changed his attacking stance to an evading stance as he barely avoided the flying sword even as he stammered out, "The Flying Sword technique of the Virtuous Palace!"

Yunzi was not paying attention to Old Yang for she was knocked back by Old Matriarch Wen's martial power as she was forced to take five steps backward which were followed by dozens of quick strokes that were descended upon her as she was knocked off balance!

Just as Old Yang was about to exploit her critical weakness that was being displayed, the Endor Vixen Fairy had intercepted Old Matriarch Wen's attacks with her Penetrating Hands martial skill and said anxiously to Yunzi, "Sister Yun, are you alright? Leave this old granny to me!"

Yunzi gasped softly, "Thank you, Sister Youxue!"

She was referring to the Endor Vixen Fairy whose real name was Xiao Youxue.

She had immediately composed herself as she stared coldly at Old Yang, "Despicable!"

In the meantime, the Heaviness who real name was Ji Lingfeng was being encircled by Wen Zhong was heard saying breathlessly, "It seems that we have got ourselves in a fix. They are much more difficult to

handle than we have been expecting...”

She paused for a breather before adding, “If we don’t overcome them soon, we will be in serious trouble soon.” It was because she had observed that dozens of fighters were already making their way to the scene and the clanking of loud gongs was already being sounded out throughout the place!

Old Matriarch Wen smiled wryly, “That is your mistake, isn’t it? All three of us have been through hundreds of fights be it big or small. In this aspect, experiences still count.”

Wen Zhong laughed aloud, “Mother, don’t be hasty in dealing them the death blow. Let me have a little fun first before we eat their hearts!”

Old Yang was also laughing wickedly, “There are three of us here and there are three of you there. It will be terrible if there is only one just one heart. It seems that Heavens is simply too kind for the three of us.”

Old Matriarch Wen said coldly, “Indeed. Son! After we have killed Dugu Yunzi and avenged the humiliations of the Sacred Divine Clan, you will definitely be the Holy Master of the Sacred Divine Clan. This is such a rare golden opportunity that has come knocking on its own!”

Yunzi scoffed icily as she mustered her martial force as four wisps of faint hovering blue light surrounded her with a sudden burst as the aftershock ripple around her, “Wishful thinking!”

Old Matriarch Wen turned pale as she took a step backward, “This! This is not the Divine Virtuous Force. This is the...”

Yunzi interrupted coldly, “This is the Invincible Divine Force, a martial skill of the Heavenly Temptress!”

Even Old Yang and Wen Zhong were both taken aback as their confidence level plummeted!

But Old Yang quickly whispered as he reminded them, “Fighting is also a psychology battle. Don’t panic or we will surely lose. From what I can tell, her Invincible Divine Force is only at the intermediate level. With our present martial strength, it poses no threat to us. She should be the one

that should fear us.”

Wen Zhong smiled as he regained his composure quickly, “That’s right. Let’s see how long she can maintain her Invincible Divine Force before fatigue overcomes her!”

Youxue hummed coldly, “You can try us!”

Lingfeng smiled alluringly as she looked in a different direction, “Unfortunately, they have no chance now.”

A white figure had descended over the high walls and in just a few blinks of an eye, a young handsome man with an righteous air was already in their midst!

His swiftness movement was astonishing!

Yunzi and Youxue exclaimed excitedly as they called out joyously for him, “Yi Ping!”

Yi Ping did not look pleased at all as he rebuked them gently, “Why didn’t you wait for me?”

Lingfeng winked at him, “I want you to worry for me. I want to know how emotionless you have become after you have become a Celestial!”

Yi Ping ignored her and had turned to face Wen Zhong, Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang. His glance was piercing but what startled them were his crimson eyes!

Chapter 72: The Fiery Phoenix

Yi Ping looked at them with clenched fists as he said, "Why did you have to kill your own men? Don't you have any humane?"

Old Matriarch Wen hummed coldly as she pointed to Lingfeng, "If there is anyone to blame, then it is she. No one must be allowed to know a thing about the Heavenly Relic. Who knows if they are spies of the Celestial Palace or the other clans here?"

Yi Ping sighed as he asked reluctantly, "Let me ask you one more time. Surrender the Heavenly Relic and we will leave quietly."

Yi Ping was not someone that would take anything from others but this time he had no other choice. It was because without the Heavenly Relics, there was no other way for him to attempt the transmigration to the Celestial Realm.

Yunzi who was also the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden had suggested to him, "I know that the Sacred Divine Clan also has a Heavenly Relic which is in the safekeeping of a clan elder."

Lele the Joyful Goddess had also said, "There is also one known Heavenly Relic that is in the Celestial Palace but it is extremely perilous to obtain it. You should know. You can barely even win one Celestial Liege."

Lele was previously from the Celestial Palace. She knew better than anyone else what kind of a place the Celestial Palace was.

Yunzi had sensed the reluctance in Yi Ping's eyes therefore she smiled and said to him, "There is nothing wrong with taking what belongs to me."

She stole a smile at Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress before saying, "And of course, that Heavenly Relic actually belongs to our Sister Qing'Er in the first place."

Lie Qing nodded with an enticing smile but refused to say anything.

Youxue added coolly, "It doesn't matter who it belongs to. If they can't

protect the Heavenly Relic then they shouldn't be allowed to safeguard it."

Lingfeng quickly said, "They are evil-doers. If you remember what happens at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains, countless innocents will suffer for their ambitions and for their celestial attempts. Only by taking away the Heavenly Relic from them, can we prevent a martial calamity from happening."

But because Yi Ping continued to hesitate, Lingfeng, Youxue and Yunzi decided to take their own course of action without informing him.

That was what had brought them here to the Enchains Sect after some difficult searching.

And it was a lucky thing that Yi Ping had found them.

But luck did not have a hand in it. It was Yunzi that had deliberately left behind clues for him to find at each new location that she had been to. Or else in the vast fraternity, it was nearly impossible for Yi Ping to find them!

And that was what brought Yi Ping here today!

Upon reaching, he nearly broke into cold sweat when he saw the situation they were in. If there were opponents that the three of them could not defeat easily then the martial level of those opponents must clearly not be underestimated.

Needless to say, his expression was solemn and he was none the pleased with their reckless bravado.

Lingfeng could see his displeasure for they had shared the Emptiness Translucence and was linked like a mirror image together, whether he willed it or not. But she pretended not to see and remained nonchalance. But of course, Yi Ping did not know of it or else he would be even more displeased.

Yunzi was composed as usual and preferred not to think about it. After all, she was the one that left the clues behind for him and moreover she knew that Yi Ping was always gentle towards her.

Youxue could sense his displeasure and she was feeling a little guilty. However, she disguised her feelings by saying aloud, "There are now four of us now. Hurry and surrender the Heavenly Relic or we won't be polite anymore."

The truth was that she was already impolite through her icy threatening tone. If it was the old her, she would not have talk so much and fight them to the very end. But she was a Celestial now and killing anyone without a cause would be detrimental to her divine cultivation and even turned her into a Dark Celestial. In short, she seemed more provoking more than pacifying!

Wen Zhong stared at the unarmed young man who continued to look at them calmly despite their fierce stares and malevolent airs. He brandished his sabre and said fiercely, "Your name is Yi Ping? We may not know who you are but you are pushing your luck too far..."

All of a sudden, he froze in his tracks as he suddenly recalled that one year ago, there was a young man with the same name that had shaken the martial fraternity with his earthshaking deeds!

He stammered, "You are that Yi Ping who calls himself the White Sage?"

Yi Ping nodded, "That's right!"

Immediately Wen Zhong, Old Yang and Old Matriarch Wen began to take a step back. One year ago, the White Sage had single-handedly fought against the best martial exponents from the major orthodox clans and had survived. At the same time, hundreds of top martial exponents were also defeated by him. Overnight, his renown had spread like wildfire but he had also disappeared from the martial fraternity afterwards.

Lingfeng said coolly, "From your defiance eyes, it seems that you still do not want to surrender the Heavenly Relic to us. Then don't blame us for not showing any mercy..."

But before she could finish speaking, Wen Zhong had suddenly brandished his sabre as he slashed at Yi Ping. At the same time, Old Yang had executed his hands into claws while Old Matriarch Wen plunged

forward with a deadly strike that was aimed at Yi Ping's face!

If Yi Ping was the White Sage, then he was obviously their first target for he could well be the most dangerous!

Even though they had coordinated their surprise attack with a perfect timing and was extremely quick, Yi Ping reaction was not slow as he retaliated immediately!

In one stance, Yi Ping had already knocked back Old Matriarch Wen onto the ground as she coughed out a bout of blood, Old Yang was already swept aside by his Boundless Force and Wen Zhong was struck directly on his forehead by Yi Ping's Divine Horizon Hand!

All three of them were on the ground and struggling to get up!

They simply could not believe that with their present martial skills, they could be knocked down so easily with just a single hit!

Youxue knew that martial exponents could not readily surrender any martial treasures even it meant the loss of their lives. Only through sheer force could wrestle it from them. She was not a maiden that resort to diplomacy or else she would not be able to amass such a vast collect of wealth and numerous martial treasures. Of course other than her, no one else knew about it.

But before she could step forward, the Heaveness said aloud. "Who is there?"

Youxue, Yunzi and Yi Ping immediately scanned their surroundings.

The number of torchlights had suddenly disappeared one by one as terrifying agonizing cries were heard in the night.

Before long, an old man was seen walking slowly towards them. His eyes were crimson and his hair was silver. Without a doubt, this old man was a Dark Celestial!

Yi Ping immediately raised his hands forward with the Dividing Heaven Stance of the Divine Horizon as he asked calmly, "Who are you?"

Old Yang and Old Matriarch Wen immediately gasped out, "It is you!"

They had recognized him as one of the elders of the Sacred Divine Clan. He still looked the same but his facial was unmistakably youthful and did not fit his stooping figure.

The old man hummed coldly as he looked at everyone, "Yes, it is me. You must be very surprised that I am a Celestial now. What do we have here? Four Celestials from the Celestial Palace?"

Lingfeng said icily, "You are a Dark Celestial, a Half-Celestial and not a True Celestial."

The old man laughed wickedly, "Does it matter? Now I am immortal and I have nothing to fear anymore. From now on, I shall dominate the martial fraternity and united all the martial clans under my everlasting dynasty. Obeisance to me; be my concubine and I will spare you."

Lingfeng said, "Shameless!"

Old Matriarch Wen coughed weakly, "Sikong Zhai! How did...how did you become a Celestial? Without the Heavenly Relic, you can overcome your martial limitations?"

Sikong Zhai laughed aloud, "You must be very surprise, am I right? I have begged you on numerous times to lend me the Heavenly Relic but you have always refused me insolently. To think that I have actually become a Celestial now. If you really want to know, I can tell you."

He laughed again before continuing, "A maiden claiming to be from the Celestial Palace threatened to eat my heart and drink my blood. Even though I was not her match but she was too inexperienced and too soft-hearted. In the end, I had dealt her a fatal blow."

Yi Ping was startled and he interrupted panicky, "Is the maiden name Lele?! What did you do to her?"

Sikong Zhai laughed, "I don't know her name. After I have my fun with her, I ate her heart and drink her heart. She certainly died a slow agonizing death."

Yi Ping was trembling and he was clenching his fists loudly.

Yunzi called out to Yi Ping with a soft whisper, "Ping'Er, that maiden may not be Lele. Calm down first or you will fall into his tricks!"

All of a sudden, Old Matriarch Wen tossed a silvery metal to Yunzi with great reluctance. "Holy Mistress, I don't want the Heavenly Relic anymore. Just protect us from this demon here. We are willing to swear allegiance to you!"

Yunzi immediately caught the Heavenly Relic and flashed it for the Lingfeng to appraise.

Lingfeng nodded and said, "I really can't believe it when I have sensed that the Heavenly Relic is on her. It seems that this Heavenly Relic has already been purified or else it won't be possible for anyone to carry it around. This Heavenly Relic must be same one that Sister Lie Qing had used to attempt her Divine Calamity in the past."

Youxue was in disbelief, "She will give us the Heavenly Relic on her own accord? I can't believe it!"

Old Matriarch Wen said, "I would rather not be killed by that vile Sikong Zhai or fall into his hands. In the fraternity, he is known as the Venomous Evil."

Sikong Zhai laughed, "Old woman, so you fear me now?"

He turned and stared coldly at Yunzi, "Maiden, surrender the Heavenly Relic to me quietly. I am someone that cherishes beauties."

Yunzi looked coldly at Sikong Zhai and Old Matriarch Wen, "It is just her ruse to distract Sikong Zhai from her. She is hoping to take advantage of us when we are all injured or weakened. Then she can retrieve the Heavenly Relic and get rid of us at the same time."

Old Matriarch Wen was startled that her stratagem could be so easily seen through by this young maiden but she kept quiet as she thought, "It seems that Dugu Zhen has taught her daughter well..."

Yunzi was full of aloofness at Sikong Zhai and her eyes shown no fear, "I refuse to surrender the Heavenly Relic. Come and get it if you are able to!"

Sikong Zhai had mustered his martial power and there was a burst of windforce that fluttered around him as he shouted, "Hand over the Heavenly Relic to me!"

His hands had turned green as he displayed the Venomous Evil Palms!

Old Matriarch Wen, Old Yang and Wen Zhong immediately stepped back as they nodded silently to each other; let these fools fought among themselves and then they would seize the opportunity to strike!

Yi Ping had also mustered his martial power with the absolute equilibrium force as he gave a great shout as three bursts of circular windforce burst from the ground, "Your opponent is me!"

He was truly enraged and was just suppressing his anger. Because his opponent was a Dark Celestial, he dared not be careless too. He had executed his most powerful martial stance, the Asper Divinity Horizon Hand as he leapt forward!

Lingfeng cried out panicky, "Yi Ping watch out! His palm is extremely venomous!"

But it was already too late as Yi Ping and Sikong Zhai smashed their blows at each other!

At their sudden impact, there was a loud explosive thunderclap and powerful windforces swept through the vicinity, forcing everyone to move backward!

Yi Ping was forced by the powerful martial force to take five steps backward before he coughed out black blood!

He was ashen and his hands were black; he was poisoned by the exchange!

Youxue, Lingfeng and Yunzi had immediately surrounded Yi Ping and were calling his name panicky!

Sikong Zhai was not faring much better too. He was flung off and he had fallen dead immediately!

When he had died, he was still in disbelief that this young man's

martial power would overcome him so exceedingly!

Lingfeng, Youxue and Yunzi were also surprised that Sikong Zhai could not take one blow from Yi Ping. But they immediately knew the reason; Sikong Zhai had not taken the tribulations of the Divine Calamity yet. He may have turned into a Celestial through an unorthodox mean but without the tribulations of the Divine Calamity, his martial limitations could not be heightened. Normally, the Divine Calamity would take place within one year for the Dark Celestials when they resorted to this method of turning into a Celestial. Compared to the true martial strength of the Three Sages and the prominent leaders of the major orthodox clans, it seemed that Sikong Zhai was just a little short of making into the league of the super exponents.

Even Old Matriarch Wen did not believe that the Venomous Evil would die in such a quick manner. She thought, "Weird, isn't he a Celestial now? His martial power didn't seem to have improved that much?"

But she was nevertheless secretly pleased as this Yi Ping had been severely poisoned and was no longer a threat to them.

She was smiling to herself as she thought, "What a pity that he got poisoned or else we can take his heart and consume it. So that is the secret to be a Celestial! And after we have become a Celestial, we can use the Heavenly Relic to advance our martial limitations! Sikong Zhai, Sikong Zhai. I will surely enjoy savoring your blood!"

Therefore Old Matriarch Wen, Old Yang and Wen Zhong had suddenly mustered their martial force and were striking at Yunzi for she had their Heavenly Relic in her hand!

Youxue and Yunzi were not slow to react for they had already anticipated this treachery as they counterattacked with burning rage!

Yunzi had drawn out a foil sword that was around her waist and she was trying hard to suppress her tears and anxiety for Yi Ping. She knew that now was not the time to worry. She had to buy time for Lingfeng to save Yi Ping!

Lingfeng did not move from her position and was standing beside Yi

Ping calmly.

She raised her hand and patted Yi Ping's back with her Holy Amalgamate Force as she absorbed the venom into her body. She whispered comforting to him, "Yi Ping, don't move and don't struggle. Just relax. I will try to absorb the venom from your body. This type of venom is extremely poisonous and kills in mere minutes."

Yi Ping was trembling as he said weakly, "Lingfeng no! If you absorb the venom, you will die! It is all my fault. I shouldn't have exchanged martial force with him. I am too quick-tempered..."

Lingfeng smiled weakly, "Don't you worry about me. I am the Holy Maiden of the Holy Amalgamate Sect and I have played with poisons all the time. This amount of venom won't be able to affect me."

All of a sudden, there was a terrifying scream as Wen Zhong was struck on his forehead by Xiao Youxue with her entire martial power!

Old Matriarch Wen was suddenly screaming at her, "You kill my son! A life for a life!"

Wen Zhong had seen a critical opening against Youxue and even though he was reluctant to lay hands on such a mesmerizing beauty but the temptations of being a Celestial was too great. After all when he could become a Celestial and had advanced his martial skills further, there were no lack of beauties for his want. Therefore he hacked at her with his sabre with totally no mercy!

But to his surprise when he had hacked at her, he was stopped by an invisible force that was seemingly on her. Before he could withdraw his stroke, another irresistible force had pulled him towards her even as her hands had turned golden.

Youxue had deliberately created a feign opening for him. She was protected by the Golden Impervious Skill, also known as the Golden Invincible Body. Before the full blunt of Wen Zhong's attack could take effect, she had neutralized it with the Divine Emerald Skill, a skill that was imparted to her by Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy before she counterattacked with the full might of her Golden Impervious Skill and

the Penetrating Hands!

Wen Zhong never knew what had overtaken him!

Old Matriarch Wen cursed aloud as she had instantly recognized her martial skills, “You are from the Virtuous Palace or the Eternal Ice Palace? You actually know the Golden Impervious Skill and the Penetrating Hands of the Virtuous Palace but you are also displaying the secret martial skill of the Eternal Ice Palace!”

Old Yang was also cursing as he could not get past Yunzi’s whirling blades, “For years, we have been collecting information and weakness of the Virtuous Palace. I know all your secret techniques and tricks. Surrender the Heavenly Relic quietly and I will still accord you an honorable death as our Holy Mistress. You can’t maintain this martial move forever. In thirty strokes, I will surely defeat you!”

Yunzi hummed coldly but she still maintained her elegant swordplay.

This four person fight was furious as the four martial exponents exchanged blows for blows, strokes for strokes and exchanging attacking positions all the time!

Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang were not easy to overcome for they had more experiences and were wily in their martial moves. But they were surprised that these two young maidens were like battle maidens that silently greeted their strokes for strokes without panic. Many of their secret strokes were killing strokes that were never seen by anyone else but they had ingeniously neutralized it.

Even though they were in praise of their martial skill despite their young age, they were not particular worry now. It was because they had already noticed that the two maidens were now faltering and had broken into sweat!

All of a sudden, Old Yang displayed the Dragon Claws Skill, a powerful secret martial skill that he had keeping secret until he got an opening as he suddenly torn into Youxue’s arm. If she was not protected by the Golden Impervious Skill then she would have already lost her arm!

Yunzi turned pale immediately as she hacked towards Old Yang in an attempt to aid Youxue. But it seemed that Old Matriarch Wen had already anticipated that and had struck her a heavy blow on her back with a cracking sound.

The attack was so powerful that not even Yunzi's Invincible Divine Force could protect her from the blow. She was instantly wobbly but she still retaliated by spinning a flying sword attack towards Old Matriarch Wen.

In her weakened state, her flying sword technique was easy to evade and was just a feign to delay Old Matriarch Wen.

Yunzi and Youxue had regrouped together and both were panting breathlessly even as Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang were approaching them from two sides!

Old Matriarch Wen said coldly, "My son's death is not going to be in vain. Young lasses, it seems that you have severely underestimated the elders of the Sacred Divine Clan. We may not be as good as the Three Evils of the West but we hold our strength against them. That's why we are the elders of the Sacred Divine Clan."

"Good! Then you have better prove it to me fast!"

Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang were stunned.

Someone had actually walked quietly behind them and they did not notice her at all!

They quickly turned around and saw an enthralling maiden in a long scarlet dress and velvet cloak standing quietly behind them!

She had a piercing gaze and carried a white-blue sword. She was like a ghostly specter. Her face was extremely white and her long black hair was flurrying in the cool night breeze.

Old Matriarch Wen heaved a sigh of relief when she saw that her eyes were not crimson and was gray. She thought, "She is blind? I have never seen anyone with such dull emotionless eyes."

When Yunzi and Youxue saw her, they immediately gasped and seemed a little afraid!

Old Yang said coldly, “Who are you? What do you want?”

The enthralling maiden in scarlet replied softly, “I am the Fiery Phoenix and I am here for the Heavenly Relic as well. So tell me, what do I want?”

Chapter 73: The Ancient Celestials

At the mere mention of the Heavenly Relic, Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang instantly knew that she harbored no good intents. Therefore they immediately attacked her!

Throughout the years, they had collaborated on numerous times against many much more powerful opponents. The deadly combination of Old Yang's Dragon Claws and Old Matriarch Wen's Eternal Explosive Hands were powerful enough to cripple any opponent. And today, they were using these two secret techniques at the same time!

The maiden in scarlet fluttered her velvet cloak, rising her slender fingers as she moved quietly between her two opponents. There was a red blinding flash as Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang cried out aloud at the same time; there were blood in their eyes and they were rolling on the ground in agony!

Old Yang was trembling in disbelief, "What manner of sorcery is this?! What skill is this?"

He could not believe that anyone could strike so fast that even with his years of fighting experiences that he could not see how she had executed her strokes!

The maiden in scarlet enthralling replied softly and unhurriedly, "This is my Starlight Divine Finger. This is but a small punishment for trying to hurt my sisters and my beloved."

She smiled and took a glance at Yi Ping, who was standing in a flustered manner.

Lingfeng had purged out most of the venomous toxins from his body and she was sitting in a mediation pose with her eyes closed. Her battle with the venoms had not ended though and there was beads cold sweat on her forehead!

Xiao Youxue was also looking flustered and her cold demeanor had vanished. She appeared coy and called out, "Sister Xingyue, you are finally

here! It is a good thing that you are here or we will meet with mishaps!"

The maiden in scarlet whose real name was Shen Xingyue said, "I have warned you all not to take any actions on your own. You have no idea how many strong opponents there are in the martial fraternity. What if you have met a Dark Celestial?"

Xiao Youxue pointed at the corpse of the Venomous Evil and said, "We have already met one. He is just so and so. Yi Ping had already dealt with him."

Shen Xingyue looked quietly at Yi Ping and Lingfeng before sighing to Youxue, "You call their situation something that you are in control of? What about the injuries on your arm?"

Youxue protested, "Injuries are common occurrence in a fight or else next time when we have met with a better exponent, we won't be at a complete loss. Every fight that is won is experienced gained!"

Shen Xingyue continued to sigh softly to herself but it was clearly audible to everyone, "But when you have lost even once, all your experiences will come to naught."

But before Youxue could protest further, Old Matriarch Wen was already cursing aloud. "You are so despicable, resorting to such underhand means to blind us! You are a completely disgrace on the martial honor of the martial fraternity! I will surely shame your name to the entire fraternity!"

Shen Xingyue said gently, "Up to you. I don't care..."

But before she could finish, Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang had stood up again to attack her once again. This time all their strokes were even more deadly than any of their previous strokes as they disregard their defenses; even if they were to die, they must bring her down as well!

Shen Xingyue brandished her Blue Heavens Divine Sword and there were a brilliant bluish white flash as cold beaming piercing sword energies rippled through. Immediately, Old Matriarch Wen and Old Yang collapsed onto the ground, never to get up again!

Shen Xingyue said softly, "This is your just desserts."

Yi Ping went up to her and was trembling, "Xingyue, why are you here? Do you know if Lele is alright?"

He pointed at the dead body of Sikong Zhai and his eyes were watery, "This old man here, he has claimed to have killed a maiden from the Celestial Palace. Other than Lele, who else could she be?"

Yunzi was solemn as she said, "It shouldn't be Lele. There are many others like Lele in the Celestial Palace."

Yi Ping muttered, "But there are few maidens like Lele that can come and go in the Celestial Palace..."

Shen Xingyue interrupted softly, "I doubt it is Lele. It is because I have just seen her just a few days ago."

Yi Ping was startled, "Where is she and where are the others?"

Shen Xingyue said, "That is why I am searching for you so frantically. They have decided to make their way to the Celestial Palace to obtain the Heavenly Relic. I couldn't stop them."

Yi Ping was stunned, "They are going to the Celestial Palace?! Why didn't you stop them? Lele is a traitor of the Celestial Palace and the Celestial Palace won't be kind to traitors..."

Shen Xingyue sighed softly, "Do you think I didn't try? You expect me to subdue them using force or diplomacy? I have tried both means and it didn't work."

Yi Ping was silent.

She was right. If Lele the Joyful Goddess wanted to do something, nothing could stop her from doing so. Moreover, there were still Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress, Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy, Shui Yujian the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and Shui Meijian the Axis Heaven Goddess.

Yi Ping murmured with a throbbing headache, "Why didn't Lie Qing and Yixian stop her?"

Shen Xingyue said, "They didn't know how long it will take to find the

Heavenly Relic. They also didn't know how long it will take you to find Lingfeng. The only place they know where the Heavenly Relic can be located is at the Celestial Palace. They want to save you some troubles and they have perfectly good intentions."

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "Now I have perfectly plenty of troubles. Quick, we must hurry!"

He was reluctant to go to the Celestial Palace and he had repeatedly warned Lele not to go back there. It was because a year ago, he had fought with the Celestial Liege who was a Prime Celestial from the Celestial Palace and it was a fight that still dreaded him to this day!

By now, Lingfeng had opened her eyes and she had walked weakly beside Yi Ping, saying gently to him. "Let's hurry then."

When Yi Ping saw her weakened state, his heart was aching and he said. "Lingfeng, are you alright? Why don't you find a haven to recuperate first? I will surely get back to you in no time..."

Lingfeng shook her head gently, "I am as worry for the rest as much as you do. My physical condition is nothing to worry about. Have you forgotten that I am protected by my Divine Invigorate Skill?"

She paused before looking melancholy at him, "We have been through much together...are you are thinking of leaving me alone and go off to fight the Celestial Palace alone?"

Yi Ping sighed heavily, "You didn't tell me when you go off to look for the Heavenly Relic either."

Lingfeng hummed coldly, "This is just trivial. Why did you put that in your heart? I know you are a petty man! I know that you don't feel comfortable in taking the Heavenly Relic from the others. That is why I have asked Yunzi and Youxue to come along. Do you know why Lele and the others have also taken the initiative to go to the Celestial Palace on their own? It is because they know that you are reluctant to risk anyone of us. But do you know that anyone of us will be glad to give up our lives for you and the other sisters?"

Yi Ping was startled and he was quiet all of a sudden.

Six months ago, Yunzi and Youxue had successfully overcome the Divine Calamity with the guidance of Lingfeng the Heaviness, Yixian the Celestial Fairy and Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress.

It was not easy for them though and they had almost lost their lives.

Yi Ping had taken the Divine Calamity at the same time as them, taking the blunt for them. This time round, he was truly a Celestial and did not resist the Divine Force unlike the last time.

Lingfeng was the only one left that did not attempt the Divine Calamity. She did not have to for she had awakened as a Celestial on her own.

She was the Heaviness and her true name represented the Heavens of this realm! In this realm, the Divine Calamity would not be able to affect her and she had all of eternity to ponder over the mysteries of the universe.

Her race was the Ancient Celestials who aspired to be Celestial Sages for they knew of another realm that existed above this realm. That place was to be called the Ninth Heavens or Beyond. To mortals, that place was called the Celestial Realm.

Eventually, the Ancient Celestials discovered the means to traverse to Beyond. To traverse to Beyond, they had to ascend! To ascend, they had to undergo the tribulations of the Divine Wrath and a majority of the Ancient Celestials perished during the tribulations!

Before the Ancient Celestials departed, they left behind their heart intricate formulas and other divine skills so that one day, the mortals would gain the knowledge of attaining as a Celestial and ascended to Beyond.

A long time had passed in Beyond and the Ancient Celestials were eventually joined by other Celestials from the lower realm. But it was not before long they had found that the Celestial Realm was not the Heavenly Realm that they were looking for but a transiting realm to yet another realm, the God Realm!

The Celestials were at a complete loss how to reach the God Realm. The only clues to reach the God Realm were in the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Already many Celestials had been killed in an attempt to storm these two places.

The Celestials did not have a choice for them to take the risk for many of them had reached the limits of their state of divinity. Without a breakthrough and without a new divine intricacy formula, sooner or later they would be killed by the Divine Wrath which got more powerful after each tribulation.

Eventually, there were just a few of the Ancient Celestials that were left and even their Divine Wrath tribulation had transformed into the Heavenly Wrath, which was even more terrifying than the Divine Wrath!

Knowing that the next time the Heavenly Wrath were to strike would also be their last, the Heaveness, the Universal Old Man and the Great Sage Lord took a calculated risk to descend to the lower realm in an attempt to find fresh clues that would help unravel the mysteries of the Stellar Sanctuary. It was because during an expedition to the Stellar Sanctuary, they had found clues that the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos, the only one that had successfully ascended to the God Realm had made a trip to the lower realm for a search.

The trip to the lower realm was not easy and not without great risk for no one had ever attempted it before except for the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. He had left behind the means to do so in the Stellar Sanctuary via the Cosmos Stellar Formation.

The Cosmos Stellar Formation was complex even to the three Ancient Celestials and their hearts sunk. But left with no other choice and finding it meaningless to meditate for another millennium years, they decided to attempt the Cosmos Stellar Formation.

During the attempt, the Great Lord Sage lost his life as he sacrificed himself to bring the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man to the lower realm.

His death was a great blow to them, especially the Heaveness. It was

because they had known each other for as long as they could remember and had been through numerous tribulations. She had also admired him for a long time...

When they had descended to the lower realm, it was thriving with numerous celestial sects and martial clans. It was also during this sojourn that the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man had secretly helped many worthy mortals to be a Celestial and many Celestials to ascend. As for their origin, they did not disclose to any of them except for their celestial names.

It was also at that time that they had decided to pick a young lad, the future White Sage to be their protégé. The Heaveness had picked him because this young lad was in many ways similar to the Great Lord Sage when he was young and they shared the same beaming eyes.

Time passed but still they had no idea what the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos was searching for in the lower realm.

Faced with the prospect of the Heavenly Wrath descending upon the lower realm and wrecking destruction upon the innocents, the dispirited Universal Old Man decided to return to the upper realm to look for new clues.

The Heaveness had grown fond of the lower realm. She had yearned to experience the emotions that she never had. She wanted to be a mortal and to die in the place where she came from. To her, that was her true home and not the God Realm.

Not wanting to invite destruction upon the innocents, the Heaveness had chosen a self-sacrificing path as a mortal. For that, she was willing to give up being a Celestial!

She had never expected that she would have such an interweaving destiny with the young lad that she had taken in as a protégé who was the future White Sage who had awakened her memories.

Not only had she awakened as a Celestial, she had also discovered that the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos had actually went to the lower realm in search of the Universal Force which was non-existent in the Ninth

Heavens!

The Heavenly Earth Sword was the only celestial sword that could unleash the Universal Force and now it was with the Celestial Fairy!

However, her awakening had also brought about an unintended consequence; her cycle of tribulations would begin anew and she was faced with the prospect of an occurring Heavenly Wrath!

Because of this, she had to leave the lower realm to the upper realm where she could face the Heavenly Wrath.

So she had said to Yi Ping, "I have to leave now. I do not belong to this world and you should know this. If I do not leave, numerous lives would be lost as a result of the approaching Heavenly Wrath."

Yi Ping was stunned.

He had quickly said, "Lingfeng...we have been together for so long and you are leaving me alone? Can I come with you?"

Lingfeng put on a smile, "You still have the others. Certainly you may have forgotten about me after some time. My presence here will only endanger the lower realm. It is best that I go back to the upper realm where I belong. If you want to see me again, it is best that you put all your efforts towards divine attainment. But with so many distractions, it may be hard on you."

At the moment, she was suppressing her divine state with her Divine Invigorate Force and had only limited her divine strength to that of the crimson level. After the crimson level was the gray level and then it would be the golden level. After that was the green-golden level and finally the red-blue level. Celestials of the green-golden level were able to revert their eyes to that of a mortal.

As one of the most powerful Celestials in Beyond, the Heavenness was naturally on the blue-red level.

Yi Ping sighed and everyone could clearly see how downhearted he was.

She turned to ask Yixian the Celestial Fairy, "I wonder if I am able to

borrow your Heavenly Earth Sword?”

Yixian smiled gently as she took slow glances at everyone before saying gently, “I refuse.”

Lingfeng smiled too. It was because she did not expect Yixian would adhere to her request. So she replied gently, “I understand...”

But Yixian interrupted with a gentle smile, “But on one condition though.”

Lingfeng was startled, “On what condition will you lend me?”

Yixian replied, “You must take us to the upper realm with you.”

Lingfeng was startled, “That’s impossible...”

Yixian sighed softly, “Normal ascension is impossible to take the Heavenly Earth Sword with you. When my celestial protégé mistress the Stellar Heaven Fairy had ascended, she couldn’t bring the Heavenly Earth Sword to the Ninth Heavens because of its weight. If I am not mistaken, you do know of another way but you are not telling us.”

Lingfeng was silent for a while. In the end, she could not fool the Celestial Fairy.

Even Lele, Lie Qing, Yujian and Meijian were astonished. “There is another way to the Ninth Heavens?!”

Yunzi and Youxue looked curiosity at Yixian...

Shen Xingyue was trembling. No one else other than her knows how arduous it was to reach her present state of divinity. She had been through many close encounters and even though she did not show it, she was even afraid to ascend.

It was not because she feared death. She feared losing Yi Ping and having to bear with an eternity of loneliness. Among the eight maidens, she had the highest state of divinity and she may be the first one to start the ascension. But of course, it was easily said than done and it may take her a long time.

Shen Xingyue asked, “Lingfeng, you know a way to get us all to the

Ninth Heavens?”

Lingfeng froze and after a time, she nodded before saying solemnly. “Yes I know. But it is extremely dangerous. I come here via the Cosmos Stellar Formation and I can use the same formation to ascend back to the upper realm. However, I have never tried using the Cosmos Stellar Formation more than twice and in a scale like this.”

Yi Ping’s eyes were beaming and he said, “Quick, we can try!”

All of a sudden, the baby in Lele’s comforting arms was crying as though she could sense that her parents were about to abandon her.

Lele began to comfort her baby, “Poor child. Be quiet. You can understand huh?”

Yi Ping was overwhelmed with guilt all of a sudden.

Yixian looked at Shen Xingyue as they nodded silently.

The two of them were the most talented celestial practitioners of their generation. Out of ten celestials, only one or two may eventually ascended to the Ninth Heavens. And both of them hold the most promise.

Shen Xingyue said to Lingfeng, “Can you show us the Cosmos Stellar Formation? With so many of us here, it may not be difficult for us?”

Lingfeng sighed, “What is so good about reaching the upper realm? It may be a place that you may loath as time passes.”

Lingfeng was saying it from the bottom of her heart. In Beyond, all the Celestials guarded their celestial skills zealously, not wanting their rivals to overtake them. And the same goes for here too.

But not Lingfeng.

She began to explain the intricacy formulas of the Cosmos Stellar Formation to everyone.

Everyone was dumbfounded and at a loss to understand the Cosmos Stellar Formation.

Yi Ping had broken into cold sweat while Youxue and Yunzi had nearly

fainted. It was because with their present state of divinity, it was still beyond them to apprehend it!

Even Shen Xingyue was silent!

After some hours, Yixian was the first to say. "This Cosmos Stellar Formation has similarities to the Celestial Star Formation. Look at this part here and this part."

Lele and Lie Qing immediately exclaimed aloud, "That's right!"

Lingfeng was surprised, "Even for me, I don't understand these two parts of the formation. Is it possible for you to share with us on the intricacies of the Celestial Star Formation?"

Yixian nodded and she quickly drew the Celestial Star Formation on the ground and explained it. Even though she was a late comer to the Celestial Star Formation compared to Lele, she had grasped its intricacies quickly.

Shen Xingyue was astonished how readiness the Celestial Fairy and the Heavenness were willing to share with them two of the most extraordinary celestial formations. It was something that not even celestial protégés of the same clan would be privy to.

In the end, they discovered that they could use the Celestial Star Formation to move the Cosmos Stellar Formation at a considerable lower risk. Even if it failed, they would still be able to stall the fallout of the Cosmos Stellar Formation and escaped from it if they were quick enough.

But there were another problem. In order to traverse from the Celestial Star Formation to the Cosmos Stellar Formation, they would need nine divine relics to act as catalyst for the transmigration for each one of them. The Heavenness was the exception because of her elevated state of divinity.

Yixian had the Heavenly Earth Sword, Shen Xinyue had her Blue Heavens Divine Sword, Yu'Er had her Harp Whisperer, Mei'Er had her Lyrical Whisperer, Lie Qing had the Perpetual Darkness and the White Phoenix Sword while Lele had the Divine Echo.

That was seven divine relics in total in their possessions!

In the end, they only needed to find two more divine relics. Divine and Celestial Swords were almost impossible to find so in the end they had turned their search towards the Heavenly Relics.

Chapter 74: The Celestial Divinity Stages

The Celestial Palace was said to be located somewhere in the misty Nirvana Mountains, a region of mountains that were as enormous as the vast expanse of the Central Plains itself!

When Yi Ping saw the map that was drawn on a piece of goat skin, he was speechless. It did not take a bright person to figure how daunting his task was in locating the mysterious Celestial Palace.

It was no wonder that the one year ago the Honor Manor and the Virtuous Palace saw the need to muster the entire martial fraternity on a secret expedition against the Celestial Palace. By all appearances, the expedition was against the Holy Hex Sect but in secret, it was also a master plan to draw the attention of the Celestial Palace.

Plan A was designed to lure the martial exponents of the Celestial Palace into revealing themselves so that the Honor Manor and the Virtuous Palace could at least have someone to interrogate on the exact whereabouts of the Celestial Palace.

Failing that, Plan B would be to expose the Celestial Palace as a direct threat to the martial fraternity and muster all the martial clans to comb the Nirvana Mountains for the mysterious Celestial Palace.

Plan B of the Honor Manor and the Virtuous Palace was not without its flaw and it was a plan that Xiao Shuai the Protégé Master of the Virtuous Palace had hoped not to see in action. His objective was simple; seize the Heavenly Relic and the Holy Maiden from the Holy Amalgamate Sect, invoke the Divine Calamity under an auspicious omen for ascension as a Celestial. He had no real wish to provoke the Celestial Palace until he was more confident.

Previously, there were many expeditions that were undertaken by the various martial clans to gain a foothold in the vast Nirvana Mountains. None had ever returned and not even an outpost had survived!

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he asked, "So which way do we go?"

Yunzi replied, "There is a small borderland town that is the nearest to the Nirvana Mountains. If we want to know the whereabouts of Lele and the rest, we may find a clue in that town. However there is a possibility that Lele may not go that way and heads toward the Celestial Palace directly."

She took a glance at Shen Xingyue who nodded quietly to her.

Yi Ping nodded as well, "If there are any clues to the Celestial Palace then that town may have some information for us there. Let's go and hurry then!"

It took just two weeks for them to traverse past the wilderness before they caught sight of the small borderland town.

The borderland town was serene. There was a river in front and lofty mountains surrounded it on all sides. Along the river bank was tall bamboos, plum blossoms and willow trees.

This was far from the deserted and barren town that Yi Ping was actually expecting. After all, the name of this town on the map was really called Borderland.

Lingfeng took off her veiled straw hat as she eyed the beautiful town as she smiled at the beautiful sight.

Yi Ping asked her, "Lingfeng, why did you take off your straw hat?"

Lingfeng smiled and asked, "Why not? Why can't I take off my straw hat?"

Yi Ping adjusted his straw hat uncomfortably and sighed, "Your crimson eyes. You can easily scare off the others..."

Lingfeng interrupted with an alluring soft laughter, "Have you ever seen a freak that is as beautiful as me?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly.

Indeed, no one would describe Lingfeng the Heaviness as a freak. She was more of the epitome of a heavenly fairy!

Shen Xingyue chuckled softly as she took off her veiled straw hat, "I

don't have crimson eyes so I can at least meet some people."

Yi Ping smiled even more bitterly.

Shen Xingyue's eyes were gray and most people would be captivated by her enchanting demeanor than noticed that her eyes colors were slightly different from the others!

Youxue adjusted her veiled straw hat and said coolly, "It doesn't matter to me. At most, I can wait to have a decent meal until we can find a cozy room."

Yunzi nodded and said, "We also cannot rule out the possibilities that the Celestial Palace have their lookouts in this town. We must take extra precaution."

Yi Ping said with some irritation to Lingfeng, "Lingfeng, put back your straw hat..."

Lingfeng laughed cheerfully, "Hmph! You seem to have forgotten that I am also the Heaveness. I am your Grand Protégé Mistress!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "That was in the past..."

Lingfeng hummed, "Even now, I am still your Older Protégé Sister. So you got to listen to me and not the other way round!"

Yi Ping was feeling giddy, "We can't go in the town like that. You will attract too much of an attention."

Lingfeng sighed softly, "Oh well..."

All of a sudden, her eyes were black again!

She winked at Yi Ping, "How about this?"

Yi Ping sighed as he looked dazedly at her.

She was the only one in their group that was able to disguise the coloring of her eyes. She was able to do so due to her high state of divinity.

Shen Xingyue was a highly attained Celestial and her state of divinity was also astonishing. But even for her, she was not able to tell the extent

of Lingfeng's state of divinity!

By now, she had already known that Lingfeng was the mythical Heaviness and her divine aura was incredible commanding. In the end, she concluded that Lingfeng was trying to mask her celestial state for an unknown reason.

Even though they had all tried on numerous times, especially Lele to query her on what the upper realm was like but she had always declined to answer politely by saying. "Heaven's secret is not to be divulged. It is best to wait until you are there. All these are but tribulations to a higher state of divinity."

Mei'Er the Beautiful Sword Fairy, who was also the Axis Heaven Goddess, was not shy to ask. "Why can't you tell us? Why are you being so secretive about it? You don't trust us or you are looking down on us?"

Despite Mei'Er constant taunts, Lingfeng said nothing and was unconcerned.

Whenever she was asked the same question, she seemed to be in a place far, far away and her alluring eyes would be melancholy.

Yixian the Celestial Fairy simply said to Mei'Er, "Some things are best not known. You should be more concerned in trying to attain your divine state."

Among the group, Yixian was the most unconcerned. It was because she had pushed herself too hard in the past and after ascending as a Celestial, she had grown much wiser. She guessed that Lingfeng did not want discourage them and was goading them toward a higher state of divinity. What better motivation was there other than the unknown and the desire for knowledge?

"Hmph, what are you thinking? Why are you in a daze?"

Yi Ping was jolted as he panicky explained, "I am just thinking of something..."

Lingfeng interrupted unhappily, "You are thinking of something or someone? You are not even paying attention to me."

Youxue looked at Yi Ping quietly before she said, "So are we going into the town or not?"

Yi Ping sighed heavily as he looked at the four maidens at the same time.

There were seven celestial divinity; Genesis, Enlighten, Emotion, Transverse, Seventh Sense, Crisis and Ascend in order to transcend to the Heavens. Yi Ping was a prodigy. Each of the celestial divinity had a lower, intermediate and upper stage.

He had quickly overcome the Genesis Stage and had now reached the Upper Enlighten Stage. Soon, he was about to reach the Emotion Stage. That was a most critical stage for him as he had to discard away his emotional attachments. This was something that was extremely hard for him to overcome.

Even though he was the White Sage but he had little memories of the White Sage. All his past memories were memories of guilt he had towards the rest of the maidens that he had known through the Emptiness Translucence, a martial heart intricacy skill.

In this present timeline through an impossible probability of coincidences, they had met again. None of them had past recollections of their past except for Lingfeng the Heaveness and Shen Xingyue the Fiery Phoenix.

Shen Xingyue had another fraternity name and it was the Dark Enchantress. After she had lost the Divine Sword the Perpetual Darkness and had perfected her Divine Rejuvenate Force, she had changed her fraternity name to Fiery Phoenix. She was also the highest level Celestial, having just overcome the Lower Crisis Stage and was now in the Intermediate Crisis State.

Youxue, Yunzi, Mei'Er and Yu'Er who had also overcome the Divine Calamity were all at the Enlighten Stage.

Yixian the Celestial Fairy and Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress had progressed at an even astonishing pace. Both of them had already reached the Emotion Stage!

At that Yi Ping sighed heavily. It was because the Emotion Stage was sometimes also the most dangerous and critical stage to overcome for most Celestials.

Yixian may be the coldest maiden that everyone had thought her but that was not true. It was because she was not willing to display her affections and because the heart intricacy formula of the Icy Heavenly Tears required the practitioners to be cold and emotionless. Even when she knew that her Divine Calamity was going to be difficult to overcome, she was not willing to tell anyone.

As for Lie Qing, she was a most sentimental maiden who had pledged her heart to him. But because she was now at the Emotion Stage, she was forced to withhold her affections. That proved detrimental to her and may be fatal to her at this point.

Yi Ping was really worried that Lie Qing may not be able to overcome her tribulations well and may die.

As for Lele the Joyful Goddess, she was the second highest level Celestial and was in the Lower Transverse Stage. It had taken her approximately two hundred years to simply overcome the Emotion Stage and her progression was already considered fast!

Even though there were just seven celestial levels but the difference between each level was so vast and dangerous that many Celestials perished. It was estimated that only roughly one third of the Celestials at each staging were able to overcome their tribulations!

So how could Yi Ping not be worried for them?

He took a quick glance at Shen Xingyue who was also looking at him at the same time. Even though she did not say anything, Yi Ping knew that her tribulations were terrifying at her celestial level. It was because the tribulations were a test on their limitations and it was never going to be easy!

All of a sudden, Shen Xingyue whispered. "Someone else is approaching and from his steps, he is no ordinary exponent!"

Youxue nodded as well. Her hearing was not as good as Shen Xingyue but she had detected the presence of a somber air in this tranquil place.

True enough, an old man had appeared and had walked quietly towards them.

He had a solemn expression and even the alluring beauty of both Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue did not seem to have any effect on him.

Yi Ping eyed him with caution but he did not say anything for he did not know his intentions yet.

The old man simply looked at Yi Ping and asked him, "Are you the young hero Yi Ping?"

Yi Ping said, "I may not be a true hero but I am Yi Ping. How did you know my name?"

The old man said, "Then follows me! My Master is expecting you!"

And he had turned around without waiting for Yi Ping to reply!

Youxue hummed coldly and she made sure that the old man could hear her, "What an insolent old man!"

But the old man did not have any reaction as he continued to walk away!

Yunzi shifted uneasily. It could be a ruse to ambush them if they were to follow him.

Yi Ping shouted, "At least you should tell us your name, who is your master is and why we should go with you?"

The old man paused in his track for a while to say, "My name isn't important. But my master is someone you know and he is expecting you somewhere not far away from here."

Yi Ping asked, "I know your master? I didn't know I have any friends here."

The old man laughed, "I don't know his name either. But his fraternity name is the Celestial Liege!"

Immediately, Yi Ping, Youxue, Yunzi and Lingfeng turned pale!

Shen Xingyue noticed their reactions and immediately, she garnered a guess that this Celestial Liege must be a terrible opponent!

Youxue said coldly, “Good! I have been waiting to settle a score with him for a long time!”

Yi Ping said solemnly, “All the more I won’t go with you. Please tell your master that I have no wish to meet him!”

The old man laughed, “Young man, don’t be hasty first. If you want to see your baby girl again, then you have to come quietly. The Celestial Palace does not take kindly to rejections.”

Yi Ping turned pale immediately!

Chapter 75: The Celestial Liege Again!

Yi Ping and his female companions followed the old man through a hidden mountain path that was surrounded by shades of ancient towering trees. If the old man was not leading them, they would never have found out about this mountain path.

Just as they had turned around a bend, they were astonished to see a beautiful white and blue palace that was built along the cliff. The only way up to that palace was a series of wooden platform along the steep cliff.

Yunzi commented softly to herself, "This must be a daunting construction, requiring a lot of planning and skilled craftsmen."

Yi Ping had overheard her and he was sighing, "I hope that such a construction is without the loss of any lives."

Shen Xingyue glanced secretly at Yi Ping and her eyes were shining with resonant at his compassion.

Lingfeng nodded as she looked gently at him, "Nevertheless since this palace has already been completed, we should admire the artisans that put their efforts into making this possible so that future generations would be in awe of their skills."

Youxue was in no mood to appreciate the grandeur of this hidden place. It was because she knew how worried Yi Ping was and that a dangerous foe awaited them in that beautiful palace.

Not long ago, they had discovered the secrets of the Celestial Palace. They were a group of Dark Celestials that had to resort to feeding on the vital blood of martial exponents in order to nourish themselves.

She had personally witnessed the martial prowess of the Celestial Liege and it was only through pure luck that they were lucky to survive that encounter.

They were all wary of the old man and their surroundings.

Before long, they were already on the steep wooden platform of the cliff

and had entered the iron gate of the palace.

The palace was large, much larger than the exact appearances on the outside.

The weird thing was, there was not a single guard or people everywhere in sight!

Yunzi was anxious. The entire atmosphere was too quiet for her liking. The sheer size of this place would require many to maintain it. The courtyards were cleanly swept, the walls were well painted and everything was too orderly. But there was not a single person other than the old man in sight!

Instead of bringing them to a residence hall, the old man seemed to be taking them on a slow tour and they were now in a picturesque garden.

Youxue said coldly, "Old man, where are you taking us? This looks like the perfect place for an ambush isn't it? You don't want to dirty your place with our blood so you are taking us to a fitting place for our execution?"

Even Yi Ping was also getting impatient, "Where is the Celestial Liege? Why is that he got my child? Where is..."

Yunzi touched Yi Ping lightly on his shoulder as she said gently, "It could just be a ruse. With the combined martial skills of the Joyful Goddess, Celestial Fairy and the Heavenly Temptress, it is unlikely for anyone to defeat them."

She lied of course and would like to believe it herself but the Celestial Palace was the sacred ground of some of the most powerful exponents in the martial fraternity. So far they had only met two of them, the Joyful Goddess and the Celestial Liege. Even with just the two of them, they were not easy to handle!

Shen Xingyue said in a low voice, "Be careful. There are others here."

All of a sudden, the old man stopped short of a bridge that was over a man-made lake and said. "They are here."

“Good, I have been waiting.”

It was unmistakably the voice of the Celestial Liege!

Yi Ping immediately clenched his fists!

Even before he had approached them, a powerful martial force could be felt and the intense pressure of his martial force was suffocating everyone!

Almost immediately, a handsome middle-age man with long white hair appeared at the other end of the bridge and there was a young petite female attendant behind him.

The young petite female attendant was carrying an infant in her arms!

What was striking about the young petite female attendant was that like the Celestial Liege, her eyes were also crimson and her white was silver!

They were both Dark Celestials!

The baby began to cry aloud as though she could sense her father presence and she wanted to get his attention.

Yi Ping turned pale immediately. It was because he had recognized from her cries that the infant was indeed his baby daughter!

The infant's mother was Lele the Joyful Goddess and she was born with crimson eyes that were unlike others.

The infant was also very special. There was a strong bond between them and Yi Ping was able to recognize her empathically.

Yi Ping was now trembling.

It was not fear but anger that had caused him to tremble.

Shen Xingyue was unhappy to see the Dark Celestials and her malevolent air surged, instantly displaying her killing intent!

The Celestial Liege spotted her and he froze in his tracks as he looked at her gray eyes, “It seems that we have an uninvited guest. Besides the Sage King and the Jade Emperor, there is another highly attained

Celestial in the martial fraternity?”

Shen Xingyue hummed softly, “Why did you invite us here for?”

The Celestial Liege laughed as he looked at Yi Ping, “We have met once again, Yi Ping. The last fight we have is indecisive. I have finally figured out why I am unable to overcome you the last time...”

Yi Ping shouted angrily, “Return my child to me now! And what did you do with Lele and the others?!”

The Celestial Liege said coldly, “Yi Ping, only if you are able defeat me then I will consider returning your baby and tell you their whereabouts. What do you say?”

Just as Yi Ping was about to step forward, Yunzi panicky said to him. “Ping’Er, don’t handle him alone. Let’s us attack as a group. He may not be able to win against so many of us.”

Youxue nodded as she said coldly, “It seems that he hasn’t forgotten about the slap that I have given him the last time!”

The Celestial Liege looked at her with interest and he was smiling, “I have been looking forward to repaying you as well.”

Lingfeng had already displayed a martial defensive posture as she hummed coldly, “The same goes for us as well!”

The Celestial Liege laughed, “You are the Holy Maiden. You know I won’t kill you. Your blood is too valuable for us.”

Lingfeng replied coldly, “But I can’t say the same for your blood which I am going to spill on the ground.”

The Celestial Liege smiled with an arrogant smirk, “You can try but you won’t succeed.”

Shen Xingyue had already stepped forward and was at the bridge, “You are a practitioner of the Celestial Force?”

It was because she had already sensed the absorbing force of the Celestial Force around him!

The Celestial Liege was slightly taken aback.

This maiden could actually stand casually on the bridge without any hint of tumbling and unaffected by his powerful Celestial Force!

He nodded coldly, "Yes, this is the Celestial Force."

Shen Xingyue said coldly, "Good! The Celestial Force is one of the most epitome divine skills. I would like to know how my Divine Rejuvenate Force will fare against yours!"

However the Celestial Liege ignored her and said, "Yi Ping, do you dare to take me one to one first? You don't have any choice. If you can defeat me, then I will return your baby to you."

As to make his point, he began to pat the infant that was in the arms of the female attendant lightly as he said. "She is so adorable. Unfortunate, soon she will lose her life because her father dare not take me one on one."

Yi Ping raised his martial force with his Absolute Equilibrium Force as he forced himself to walk towards the bridge, resisting the irresistible weakening drain of the Celestial Force. He said to Shen Xingyue, "Xingyue, please step back. This fight is between us."

Shen Xingyue was melancholy as she stared at the Celestial Liege with bloodshot eyes. "Despicable. If you still have any honor, don't use the infant as a hostage!"

She had already hinted to Yi Ping that the Celestial Force was an epitome divine skill during the time that she was in the Ascension Sect. But the determination in his eyes was unwavering so she stepped back reluctantly with a heavy heart!

Youxue, Lingfeng and Yunzi were all equally upset and their frustrations were shown in their eyes but they dared not make a single move because the infant was everything to Yi Ping!

The female attendant that was beside the Celestial Liege had also stepped back. The air was filled with the suffocating air of martial force that threatened to knock down the weaker opponents that dare to even

approach the Celestial Liege!

Yunzi sighed. It was exactly the same as the last time. It was only their wishful thinking that they could approach such a tidal force and move unrestricted. With a soft sigh, she lifted her martial power to display the Invincible Divine Force as three beaming visible blue spheres surrounded her.

Youxue had also surrounded herself with the Divine Virtuous Force as she looked quietly at the Celestial Liege as she stole a look at Shen Xingyue who had nodded in return. They were not going to idle and simply watched what was going to happen next!

Shen Xingyue and Youxue were both experts in speed attacking techniques and were known for their swiftness movement skill too. At the first opportunity, they were going to grab the infant. Therefore they decided to wait until the Celestial Force that was hindering them could sufficiently be weakened before they made their move.

When Yi Ping had stepped on the bridge, the Celestial Force of the Celestial Liege had already been increased a few folds!

This forced Lingfeng to slide backward as her martial power was insufficient to resist it.

Her Holy Amalgamate Force was a variant of the Celestial Force and was much weaker than the original.

Shen Xingyue looked at Lingfeng curiously. Sometimes she wondered if she was faking her martial skills given that she was the Heaviness.

Meanwhile, the old man that had led them here was already sitting at a nearby pavilion and he had taken out a pipe and he was smoking from his pipe casually!

Shen Xingyue was wary of him. He was no ordinary exponent for sure even if his eyes were not crimson. Celestial divinity may be related to martial progression but that did not necessary mean that a Celestial could not be killed by a mortal. It was the same theory that a highly skilled martial exponent could also be killed by a weaker exponent.

Resolve, luck, physical condition and state of divinity played a major part too!

While they were being drained physically by the Celestial Force of the Celestial Liege in an effort to maintain their stand here, that old man was conserving his strength at a distance!

For him to appear so relaxed was an indication of his state of divinity. How could an old servant not be concerned by his master's wellbeing and could simply walk off without saying a word?

Moreover back at the Borderland Town when they had first met him, she had only detected him only when he was very near. Given her Celestial Divinity, there was scarcely anyone that could do so anymore!

Therefore that was why she was wary of this old man!

As for the petite maiden that was standing on the other side of the bridge, she was too composed and did not appear to be concerned that they were a threat. That should not be the case because there were five of them here and all of them were a Celestial!

For all her young appearances, she was probably centuries old and was a super exponent as well!

The Celestial Palace had already existed for centuries without any external threats. The number of secret martial skills that had been collected by them far exceeded all the other martial clans!

The Celestial Liege was already waiting for Yi Ping with an opening stance as he said coldly, "The last time that we have fought, it was a contest of internal strength and martial power. I realized much later that you have only won because you could negate the draining effect of my Celestial Force. That was so arrogant of me the last time. But this time, we are going to fight for real."

Yi Ping replied coldly, "You didn't turn over a new leaf from the last time that we have met. Evil will not triumph over good."

The Celestial Liege laughed, "I only saying that because Qing'Er is there."

He was referring to Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress.

Yi Ping clenched his fists, "You are a hypocrite!"

While Yi Ping was scolding the Celestial Liege, he had already moved in and attacked him with his Divine Horizon Hands!

The Celestial Liege immediately changed his palm stance into a finger stance as the two super martial exponents clashed furiously!

As they clashed, outbursts after outbursts of furious martial force ripped around them that even the solid bridge was trembling and the waters in the lake had turned into a whirlpool!

The onlookers were all forced to take several steps back as the martial outbursts were lashing too furious at the center!

Yi Ping could feel a burst of fiery windforce negating his Divine Horizon Hands each time he had exchanged a blow with the Celestial Liege. He was astonished that his Divine Horizon Hands that had never failed him would encounter such a powerful martial force that even his hands were now trembling after they had exchanged just thirty blows!

Shen Xingyue was startled as she called out panicky, "Yi Ping, that is the Phenomenon Finger Skill! Be careful!"

She had instantly recognized the finger technique of the Celestial Liege as a lost divine skill of the Celestial Phenomenon Sect!

The Divine Horizon Hands was a powerful martial skill that could increase the martial force of the practitioner several times but it was also an extremely tiring skill. If Yi Ping did not have the martial force of the Absolute Equilibrium Force, then he would have already exhausted himself by now and would have been overcome by the Celestial Liege!

The Celestial Liege was surprised that Yi Ping was able to exchange more than thirty blows against his Phenomenon Finger!

He had deliberately used a finger skill against Yi Ping because he was also wary of the other opponents. Finger Skills were a natural nemesis of palm skills and that allowed him to conserve his martial strength.

Yi Ping had broken into a cold sweat as they exchanged hurried powerful blows. Such was their martial exchanges that the entire bridge was swerving!

All of a sudden, the Celestial Liege sensed a weakening in Yi Ping's resolve and he increased his martial power. Immediately his Phenomenon Finger went through the defenses of the Divine Horizon Hands and struck Yi Ping on his chest!

The strike of the Celestial Liege martial force was so powerful that the onlookers could see an explosive burst of martial force bursting forth from Yi Ping's back!

Immediately, Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng, Youxue and Yunzi gasped at the same time!

Just as the Celestial Liege was grinning conceitedly, he did not expect that Yi Ping would actually have the strength to retaliate with his deadly Asper Horizon Hand as he received a heavy impact on his chest at the same time!

The Asper Horizon Hand, a secret martial technique of the Divine Horizon Hands had unique characteristics that marked it differently. Such was its rippling martial power that when it was used, a shrieking implosion would be heard!

Both men were flung to the other side of the bridge, followed by the collapse of the bridge that could no longer bear the dissipating power of their martial force as it rippled throughout the vicinity!

Lingfeng and Yunzi immediately grabbed Yi Ping as he stumbled back.

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he was held by them as he lifted his vital energies with the Divine Revelation Skill. Aided by the Emptiness Translucence, he quickly purged the pure positive intricate energy of the Celestial Force out of his body!

He sighed softly, "Lucky!"

The injuries that he had received were not light but before he could steady himself, Shen Xingyue and Xiao Youxue had already displayed

their epitome swiftness movements towards the other side of the bridge!

Not even the fallen bridge could hinder them from jumping over the lake!

Xiao Youxue had already raised her hand in a downward swing as she aimed for the forehead of the Celestial Liege while Shen Xingyue was seen reaching against the petite attendant and trying to snatch the infant from her!

Yi Ping was shouting panicky, "Back! You are not his match!"

But it was already too late.

The Celestial Liege had lifted up his sleeve with his martial force and swept Youxue aside!

At the same time, Shen Xingyue was forced to withdrawn her intricate strokes because she did not want to hurt the infant and the petite attendant was not as weak as she had thought. Shen Xingyue sighed at her failure and she was beside Youxue in an instant as she reached out to help Youxue to her feet!

The Celestial Liege looked at Youxue as he smiled, "Are you alright? You shouldn't have tried to attack me while I was down. It is a lucky thing that I am able to restraint myself."

The Asper Horizon Hand did not seem to have seriously hurt him. His Celestial Force was indeed formidable!

Youxue looked at the Celestial Liege coldly as she said with disdain, "Who needs you to restraint yourself?"

All of a sudden, the Celestial Liege coughed out a bout of bad blood. It was because he had overtly exerted himself when Youxue had forced a surprise attack on him. But other than that, it seemed that his injuries were light and he was smiling conceitedly.

On the other hand, Yi Ping had suffered a more serious internal injury but he had forced himself to step forward. "This fight has not ended, am I right?"

The Celestial Liege smiled, "That is right. But in your present state, can you fight?"

Yi Ping was trembling and his eyes had turned bloodshot, "I only want to know this. What have you done to Lele, Lie Qing, Yixian, Mei'Er and to Yu'Er?"

The Celestial Liege hummed coldly, "I will only tell you if you are able to defeat me."

Shen Xingyue had already lost patience and had already mustered her martial power as she was wrapped herself with the Divine Rejuvenate Force, causing her real self to be distorted as wavering shockwaves of her intricate energy in all directions.

She was really, really upset and had already drawn out the Blue Heavens Divine Sword from her scabbard as she said coldly, "I don't care for your martial honor. I don't care for any agreements with the Dark Celestials. Firstly, you shouldn't have taken Yi Ping's baby as your hostage. Secondly, you shouldn't have injured Yi Ping. Today, I am going to take your head!"

Without a word more, she had flown with startling speed towards the Celestial Liege as she raised the Blue Heavens Divine Sword.

Her speed was so astonishing that the blue aura of the beaming Blue Heavens left behind a trace of wavering blue hues behind that were shaped like the wings of the blue phoenix!

But before she could reach the Celestial Liege, the old man that was at the pavilion had traversed next to her with equally astonishing speed as he struck her on her shoulder blade, instantly flinging her onto the ground with a thunderous impact, sending rocks and earth flying in all directions!

Yi Ping was stunned as he quickly rushed to her!

Shen Xingyue was trembling as she looked at Yi Ping with a startled look. It was because she had never expected anyone to be able to interrupt her while she was on her move. Only a Transverse Level Celestial would be able to do so!

Even though she had landed with a tremendous impact, she was not too seriously injured as she had the protection of her Divine Rejuvenate Force but still, she was badly shaken.

She looked at the old man and gasped in disbelief, “Just who are you?!”

The old man looked at her coldly before he replied, “You have come here to look for the Celestial Palace and yet you are asking who I am? I am the Jade Emperor and I am the grandmaster of the Celestial Palace.”

Yi Ping, Yunzi, Lingfeng, Youxue and Shen Xingyue were all stunned!

They had never expected that the Jade Emperor to be here!

Shen Xingyue said coldly, “I have not lost yet. Since you are here, good! I shall exterminate you with my sword!”

The old man hummed coldly at her claims.

Yunzi whispered, “His eyes are not crimson and his hair isn’t completely silver. Yet he claims to be the Jade Emperor. How do we know if it is true?”

Yi Ping was solemn. It was because he had just witnessed the martial skills of this old man. Even if he was not the Jade Emperor, he was not to be taken lightly. And they were now facing two super exponents instead of one!

The old man that had claimed to be the Jade Emperor pointed at Yi Ping, “Since you are here, I will not disappoint you. If you are able to defeat me, I will not only return your child to you but I will also give you the Heavenly Relic. What do you think?”

Yi Ping was trembling as he asked, “Lele, Yixian...where are they? What have you done with them?! You will release them?”

The Jade Emperor said coldly, “Even if I want to, I won’t be able to. I have already feasted on them!”

Yi Ping was stunned as he stumbled backward in a daze!

Chapter 76: The Jade Emperor

For the first time ever, Yi Ping had lost his fighting spirit and he was trembling. He was weeping and crying out aloud, "Child, you have lost your mother at such a tender age. Soon you will lose your father too..."

He was dazed and despite Lingfeng, Yunzi, Youxue and Xingyue calling out aloud to him, he did not seem to have noticed them.

He had been through several hardships and misadventures together with Lele, Yixian, Lie Qing, Yu'Er and Mei'Er but now he had lost them forever. This was a huge blow to him!

Shen Xingyue sighed sadly but she knew that this was not the time for sorrows. Unless they could overcome their opponents today, none of them would be able to survive today. She raised her Blue Heavens Divine Sword as she stared coldly at the Jade Emperor.

The Jade Emperor said, "It seems that he can no longer fight. What a pity. I will really like to see how profound the Asper Divinity Horizon Hands really is but it seems that I no longer have the opportunity to witness it today."

Yunzi cried out emotionally, "You can witness the flying sword techniques of the Virtuous Palace instead when your head is rolled on the ground!"

Shen Xingyue, Youxue, Yunzi and Lingfeng had already stepped forward with defiant expressions against both the Jade Emperor and the Celestial Liege!

The Jade Emperor said coldly, "Go on, I am willing to give you an advance of a hundred strokes before I retaliate."

The Celestial Liege was smiling, "Then I shouldn't be less generous as well. I am also willing to give an advance of one hundred strokes."

Shen Xingyue whispered, "Leave the Jade Emperor to me. If possible, try to delay the Celestial Liege as much as possible until I have dealt with the old freak."

The rest of the maidens simply nodded silently.

It was because Shen Xingyue had noticed that they too, had lost their fighting spirits!

Xiao Youxue eyes were melancholy. She was really close to Yixian the Celestial Fairy who had taught her the Divine Emerald Skill and the advance levels of the Icy Heavenly Tears. Without her instructions, she would never be able to overcome her Divine Calamity. Yixian was not only her protégé mistress but her sister as well!

The same thing went for Yunzi as well who had regarded Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress in a similar fashion as Youxue.

Lingfeng who was emotional attached to Yi Ping through the Emptiness Translucent was trembling uncontrollably as grief overtook her.

Asking them to delay the Celestial Liege was really not an easy thing to do in their present state!

Just as Shen Xingyue was about to launch an attack on the awaiting Jade Emperor, a familiar feminine voice said unhappily. “Forget about the hundred strokes in advance. This is not funny at all.”

Yi Ping was startled and his heart was pounding very excitedly. It was Lele’s voice!

A beautiful enticing maiden had just walked into the garden. She was Lele the Joyful Goddess! She was breathtaking to beholden and it was as though the atmosphere had suddenly become alive with her entrance!

Yet, right behind her was four other equally beautiful maidens that were equally beautiful to behold; Yixian the Celestial Fairy, Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress, Yu’Er the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and Mei’Er the Axis Heaven Goddess!

Just as Yi Ping was still recovering from his daze, Mei’Er and Yu’Er had already surrounded him as they called out excitedly to him. “Master! You have finally come!”

Yi Ping was dumbfounded, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er...you are not dead?”

Mei'Er laughed merrily, "Do I look like I am dead to you?"

Yi Ping smiled weakly, "No. What is going on?"

Shen Xingyue, Yunzi, Youxue and Lingfeng were already embracing Lele, Yixian, Mei'Er, Yu'Er and Lei Qing joyfully!

Lele said coolly, "Welcome to the Celestial Palace."

Yi Ping was startled, "This is the Celestial Palace?"

Everyone had assumed that the Celestial Palace was deep inside the Nirvana Mountains. It was no wonder it was never found by anyone...

Lele said with a mesmerizing smile, "Indeed this is the Celestial Palace! And this is my grandpa, the Jade Emperor himself!"

Yi Ping was startled as he stared blankly at the Celestial Liege and the Jade Emperor. He muttered, "But they tried to kill us and they even threaten me with our baby..."

Lele stroked her long hair as she sighed softly, "This is a long story. To put it briefly, my grandpa wants to know how you feel for me. That is why he wants to set a test for you."

The Jade Emperor roared with laughter, "I just don't understand. Why are there so many beautiful maidens that are willing to lay down their lives for you? Now I have finally understood a little."

Yixian had also walked quietly besides Yi Ping as she looked gently at him, "Yi Ping, are you well? Are you painful?"

When Yi Ping saw her gentle eyes, all his pain vanished immediately!

Lie Qing was also besides him as she said softly, "I didn't agree to it but the Jade Emperor insists on it. I hope that you are not angry with us."

Yi Ping shook his head as he smiled weakly, "It doesn't matter. As long as everyone is fine, I am content!"

The Celestial Liege had extended out his hand towards Yi Ping as he smiled, "You didn't think that I will really hurt my dear niece, didn't you? I hope you are not angry with me for beating you up."

Yi Ping gave a broad grin as he shook the hand of the Celestial Liege firmly, "It is a good fight. I may not lose the next time."

The Celestial Liege laughed, "We see about that later."

The petite attendant was also smiling, "I am one of the Prime Celestials of the Celestial Palace and my name is Ye Ling!"

Lele winked at the Jade Emperor, "So grandpa, did he pass your test?"

The Jade Emperor growled, "His martial skills are still too weak. How can I give him the Heavenly Relic? How can my mind be put to rest if I allowed him to take you to the upper realm with his current martial skills?"

Lele said coolly, "I am not worried. We have so many martial skills in the Celestial Palace. Just let him have them, won't it solve the problem?"

The Jade Emperor said, "The martial treasures of the Celestial Palace aren't for the eyes of strangers..."

Lele hugged her grandpa, "Thank you, grandpa! Tomorrow I show him some of the epitome skills of the Celestial Palace..."

The Jade Emperor was exasperated, "I didn't say I am allowing it..."

But before the Jade Emperor could protest further, there was a loud slapping sound as the Celestial Liege was slapped hard by Youxue!

Youxue said with cold demeanor, "I say the next time that I see you, I will surely slap you."

The Celestial Liege smiled bitterly as he looked at her with interest before he gave a soft sigh.

Chapter 77: The Prime Celestials

They were seated in two rows and were facing the Jade Emperor.

There were beautiful wines and aromatic food but Yi Ping's mind was preoccupied with many questions.

Yi Ping was curious why the eyes of the Jade Emperor were crimson now but was not earlier. And of course, what was going on around here? Earlier, he had expected a deadly duel with the Dark Celestials but now he was actually sitting with them in the same hall!

Now that Yi Ping had found Lele, he was relieved that she was safe but at the same time he was feeling awkward. It was because he had found himself sitting face to face with the Celestial Liege, an opponent that he had fought twice against.

At the same time, this did not help him at all when Shen Xingyue, Youxue, Lie Qing and Lele were all giving him the cold shoulders. It was because Yu'Er and Mei'Er were deliberating sitting beside him and not giving anyone else the opportunity to get close to him!

Lele was overheard muttering, "I don't mind at all. I am a highly attained Celestial."

However, she was chilly and she was cold towards Yi Ping.

Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing never even took a glance at him and they were deliberately chatting happily with each other as though he was not there!

Youxue was wrapped in her cold demeanor, not talking to anyone except Yunzi.

The Celestial Liege was also looking at Yi Ping in an awkward manner.

It was because both Lie Qing and Youxue refused to look at him and had also pretended he was not there.

Ye Ling whispered to him, "You seem to mind the two maidens a lot."

The Celestial Liege smiled bitterly, "I am not."

Ye Ling turned away quietly, “You lying...”

As when she was about to rebuke him further, the Jade Emperor had interrupted her and was saying to everyone. “Welcome to the Celestial Palace. I hope that this banquet is pleasing for everyone.”

The banquet of the Celestial Palace was more than magnificent. In fact, none of them had ever seen another grand feast such as this. There were all types and kinds of aromatic food that were being laid on the table one by one by dozens of serving attendants!

Only Yixian and Shen Xingyue were unmoved.

They were content with simple food and were vegans so they were not tempted.

Even though Yu’Er and Mei’Er were also vegans, their eyes were glowing at the aromatic honeys and wines that were being displayed!

Lingfeng was quiet and was lamenting softly to herself but nobody knew what was in her mind.

The Jade Emperor said to the guests, “By now, you should have already been acquainted with three of the Prime Celestials of the Celestial Palace, the Joyful Goddess, the Celestial Liege and the Confession Lady.”

The Confession Lady of course was referring to Ye Ling.

Ye Ling gave a smile as she winked coyly at Yi Ping, “I am new as a Prime Celestial. My experiences and martial skills are not as plenty as my predecessors.”

Yi Ping had noticed her wink and was smiling bitterly as he thought, “Lele has told me before that in order for one to be appointed as a Prime Celestial, they have to be extraordinary martial exponents and have the backings of the elders or else it will be hard for them to keep their appointments within the Celestial Palace. She isn’t from the same clan as Lele yet she is a Prime Celestial. Does it mean that she must have extraordinary skills or else that wouldn’t be possible?”

The Jade Emperor looked wryly at Yi Ping as he said, “There are many

others here but they are in a slumber. When there are opportunities, I will introduce you to them. You must have many questions to ask me, am I right? Perhaps I can clear the doubts in your mind.”

Yi Ping asked quite bluntly, “Why aren’t your eyes crimson? Are you a Dark Celestial? Are all of you Dark Celestials?”

The Jade Emperor laughed, “Practitioners of the internal martial arts are able to suppress their internal strength and even their state of divinity. Therefore this is not a real surprise at all.”

Lingfeng nodded.

Shen Xingyue was silent. It was because it was easier said than done. Even though her Divine Rejuvenation Force was an epitome internal skill, it was unlike the absorbing skill of the Celestial Force which could suppress even the practitioner’s own martial strength. Moreover, to be able to do so was an indication of the practitioner’s level. Even for the Celestial Liege and Lele, they were not able to accomplish that.

Yi Ping could only groan quietly at that.

The Jade Emperor added a smile after noticing Yi Ping’s expression, “Am I a Dark Celestial? What do you really think?”

Yi Ping turned to look at the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling before he sighed, “I really do not know.”

He was not sure either and dare not make quick judgments!

The Jade Emperor gave a soft sigh before saying, “I have almost become a Dark Celestial if it wasn’t for the timely arrival of Huan Lie.”

Huan Lie was the real name of the Celestial Liege.

The Jade Emperor said solemnly, “In order to become a Celestial, first know how to cultivate as a human sage. That is what Huan Lie has said to me...”

He stole a glance at Lie Qing who nodded discreetly at him before saying, “Without the timely advice of Maiden Lie Qing to Huan Lie, I would have turned into a Dark Celestial. The Celestial Palace and the

Invincible Divine Clan have been sworn enemies for a long time...”

Lie Qing interrupted casually, “That is in the past.”

She pretended not to be concerned but she was in fact was still grieving for her clan demise or else, she would have forgiven Huan Lie already.

The Jade Emperor could sense that she did not want to bring up the past so he said, “That requires a lot of willpower. I have almost perished in my Divine Calamity a year ago and that advice sustained me to the very end. But I can’t say the same for many of us here.”

The Jade Emperor was suddenly grave and his eyes were melancholy.

In the past one year alone, more than half of the protégés of the Celestial Palace had perished and many of them were in fact killed by him!

One year ago, the Jade Emperor had said to them. “From now on, I will no longer aid you in your Divine Calamities or else it will be detrimental to your future cultivations. Everyone has to die eventually. Many of you have already prolonged your lives long enough at the expense of others. What we did cannot be forgiven so easily. We should turn back now and right the wrongs that we did.”

That caused a furor and immediately the Celestial Palace was split into two warring factions.

The Dark Celestials of the Celestial Palace that refused to turn over a new leaf was eventually defeated. Most were killed and quite a few had escaped.

These Dark Celestials that had escaped would one day stir new troubles for the martial fraternity; their secret martial knowledge would make them formidable foes!

The Jade Emperor explained to Yi Ping patiently that from now on, the remnants of the Celestial Palace would embark on the correct path and would not do anything that was considered unrighteous in the martial fraternity.

When he had said that, even the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling were both solemn. It was because unlike the Jade Emperor who had managed to overcome the Divine Calamity through his own efforts, the rest of the Dark Celestials of the Celestial Palace had not. When it was time for the Divine Calamity to descend upon them, most of them would not survive!

That was why many of the Dark Celestials of the Celestial Palace had resisted the call of the Jade Emperor to embark on a new path and had even rebelled!

It was because this new path was a self-destructed path that could spell the end for them!

After hearing this account from the Jade Emperor, Yi Ping's heart began to calm down and his enmity against the Celestial Palace was dropped. Similar to Lie Qing, Yi Ping's martial clan had a grudge against the Celestial Palace.

In fact, he had also gained a little respect for the Jade Emperor who had taken such a drastic measure to correct his wrongdoings. He knew that most of the Dark Celestials in the Celestial Palace was actually his kin and therefore it was a painful decision for him.

The Jade Emperor tried to lighten the mood of the atmosphere by changing the conversation, "For many years, the Celestial Palace is the most powerful martial clan as well as the most powerful celestial clan in the fraternity. But now, it is not the case anymore."

Yi Ping asked curiously, "Surely it is still the most powerful clan in the fraternity? The martial skills of the Celestial Palace are also the quintessence of the martial skills of the fraternity."

The Jade Emperor said solemnly, "You may not know that there are also many other celestial clans in the fraternity, am I right?"

Yi Ping was startled, "There are other celestial clans in the martial fraternity?"

The Jade Emperor said, "Indeed there are many celestial clans in the fraternity but in order to ascend as quickly as possible, most of the

celestial clans do not want to meddle in the affairs of the martial fraternity. I know that there are at least two prominent celestial practitioners in the Universal Truth Sect and the Infinity Sword Clan.”

Yi Ping was surprised, “The Infinity Sword Clan also has a celestial practitioner?”

The Jade Emperor was solemn, “There may be more but the majority of the Infinity Sword Clan may not be aware of their presence. But they may be making their presence known very soon to you.”

Yi Ping was getting more and more bewildered as he muttered, “Huh?”

The Jade Emperor pointed at Shen Xingyue, “She has taken their Blue Heavens Divine Sword. It is not something that they will give up easily even if they are highly attained celestial practitioners who have no mortal wants.”

Shen Xingyue said coolly, “It is not something that I will give up easily either!”

The Jade Emperor smiled at her, “I expect so too. I have heard that Maiden Shen is also a secret celestial practitioner from the Honor Manor and your level is pretty high too. I will like to exchange pointers with you sometimes.”

Shen Xingyue pretended not to hear. Even though she did not show it, she still bore a grudge against him for laying his hands on her when they had fought earlier!

Yi Ping was beginning to understand more and more now. Even though Shen Xingyue was Han Shadong’s protégé mistress, he had never expected that his protégé mistress to be a celestial practitioner and was really surprised when he had realized it!

Yi Ping thought, “It seems that even the celestial practitioners do not trust their own. Alas, these conflicts and bloodshed, when will it ever end? It seems that it is easier to guard against an enemy than a friend. These celestial practitioners will rather endure countless years of solitary than risk having their years of celestial cultivation destroyed by a betrayal. But

of course if there are other secret celestial practitioners in the fraternity, then there must also be dark celestial practitioners too which they must be wary...”

The Jade Emperor added, “Other than the secret existence of the celestial clans, the martial skills of the various martial clans are also not to be underestimated. Take for example, the secret skills of the Virtuous Palace and the Eternal Ice Palace among many others. Who knows, these clans may also have their own secret celestial practitioners somewhere.”

Yixian immediately raised her eyebrow as she began to tremble lightly as she thought, “There are others like me from the Eternal Ice Palace? Where are they?”

The Jade Emperor looked at Yi Ping before saying, “The Divine Horizon Hands also cannot be underestimated.”

He paused for a while to look at everyone, lingering at Lele before saying. “The Celestial Palace has no lofty ambitions to dominate the martial fraternity unlike the Dark Celestials. On the other hand, the Celestial Palace has much to fear from the heretic sects that are led by the Dark Celestials especially from those that are previously from the Celestial Palace. They know too much and may collaborate with our enemies for their own gains. ”

Lele was melancholy as she muttered, “Grandpa, don’t be sad...”

The Jade Emperor smiled fondly at Lele before he said, “You have grown up and have become a true celestial. I have no other qualms anymore. But remember, the upper realm is much more dangerous than the martial realm here. Grandpa can no longer take care of you anymore. There are many other celestial practitioners out there and it is a place that I hope that I may go one day. So don’t die there.”

Lele looked away quietly. It was because she did not want her grandpa to see her quiet tears.

The Jade Emperor turned and looked at Yi Ping intently, “So take care of Lele and I will take care of your child for you. One day, we may meet us again.”

Yi Ping stammered, “You are willing to lend us the Heavenly Relic?”

The Heavenly Relic was a prized artifact. No one would be willing to give it away so readily!

The Jade Emperor nodded, “Even though I had in the past gone through many hardships in order to obtain it and it is also important to me but I believe that your cause is more worthy.”

He smiled wryly as he looked at Lingfeng, “What an astonishing maiden. I may not know who you really are due to my ignorant but I hope that one day when I am able to transmigrate to the Ninth Heavens, you will be able to lend me a helping hand. After all, I may be a powerful celestial here but I can’t say the same when I am on the other side.”

Lele had already told him that Ji Lingfeng was actually a celestial practitioner and that her celestial name was the Heaveness.

As a matter of fact, Lingfeng had previously pointed out to Lele what went wrong with the intricate formulas of the Celestial Force and had even resolved some of the tricky difficulties that were plaguing the celestial practitioners of the Celestial Palace. Lele had used some of that knowledge gained to help her grandpa resolve his own difficulties.

The Jade Emperor was astonished that Lingfeng knew so much about the various intricate formulas. That was why he was willing to give Yi Ping the Heavenly Relic. But that was not the main and only reason.

He was simply content that Lele was able to go to the Ninth Heavens and that she was able to fulfill his lifelong dream for him. Even though he was secretly reluctant and afraid, he did not want to reveal it to her. It was because there must be a strong enough reason that only celestial practitioners who were ready were allowed there. Deep in his heart, he knew that Yi Ping and the rest were not ready yet but he was also not willing to discourage them.

Lingfeng was trembling lightly. She looked at the Jade Emperor intently with a soft sigh, “You, you are really willing to lend us the Heavenly Relic?”

The Jade Emperor laughed and confirmed the answer, “Why not?”

Lingfeng nodded in appreciation. Words simply could not describe her gratefulness!

The Jade Emperor was suddenly solemn, “But there is one thing that I am curious in. I have heard that when a celestial practitioner transmigrated to the Ninth Heavens, metallic materials are destroyed in the process and sometimes under rare circumstances, metallic residues such as the Heavenly Relics will be left behind when precious metals are destroyed.”

He looked at Yujian, Meijian, Yixian, Shen Xingyue, Lele and Lie Qing with a curious look, “Divine weapons and Heavenly Relics won’t be destroyed but it can’t transmigrate together with the celestial practitioners either. But from what I know from Lele, the reason why you need the Heavenly Relics is to substitute it as a divine weapon to form the Celestial Star Formation so that transmigration to the Ninth Heavens would be made possible. Surely you are not thinking of giving me all these divine weapons and Heavenly Relics afterwards?”

Lingfeng smiled mysteriously, “What do you think?”

Chapter 78: The Ultimate Celestial Star Formation

It was noon, the winds were strong and dark clouds were forming rapidly.

The view from the top of the cold misty mountains was breathtaking but no one had any mood for appreciation.

The Jade Emperor, the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling were here to witness the most significant event that were to take place, the transmigration to the realm above that was called the Ninth Heavens.

Ye Ling gasped, "I have never expected to see such an event taking place. Is it really possible? They are really going to Beyond?"

Lingfeng had overheard Ye Ling and she smiled, "Actually Beyond isn't actually the correct name for it."

Ye Ling asked curiously, "What do you mean?"

Lingfeng explained, "Previously we have all thought that the Ninth Heavens is the Beyond. But a Tenth Heavens exists beyond the Ninth Heavens. This is a place where we call the God Realm and is a goal that the celestial practitioners in the Ninth Heavens are striving for."

Ye Ling, the Jade Emperor and the Celestial Liege gasped, "There is yet another realm above the Ninth Heavens?"

Lingfeng realized that she had revealed too much and she was suddenly quiet.

Even Yi Ping and the rest of the other eight maidens were all looking at her curiously and waiting for her to continue.

Finally, Lingfeng simply said. "The Heavens beyond the Heavens, is called the Beyond. This is a place where we can be sheltered from the tribulations. However, no one living has found a way there. Only one celestial who calls himself the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos has been there from the enigmatic clues that we have gathered. But we are not

sure if he really makes it too. But no matter what, knowing too much isn't going to help you and will even harm your celestial progression."

The Jade Emperor nodded as he stared blankly at Lingfeng as he thought, "How did she know so much about the celestial realm? Is she from that realm?"

In the meantime, the Celestial Liege stood awkwardly in front of Lie Qing and Xiao Youxue. Finally he said, "We don't know what will actually happens but I wish the best for both of you."

Lie Qing sighed softly and she finally spoke, "What is past is past. Don't linger anymore and be decisive."

She stole a quick look at Youxue and Ye Ling.

Ye Ling quickly looked the other way.

Youxue said coldly, "I am not that close to you and I already have someone close to my heart. You should treasure that maiden over there. Surely you must be terribly blind!"

The Celestial Liege was startled and he followed the look in Youxue's eyes and saw Ye Ling.

The Celestial Liege was dumbfounded momentarily and for the first time, he seemed confused.

At the same time, Yi Ping saw the look in the Celestial Liege as he sighed, "They are all devoted to me but can I give them all a fair and just treatment?"

Officially, Yixian the Celestial Fairy was his official wife.

Unofficially, Lele and Yunzi were his second and third wives as they had not gone through any marriage rites.

In the past one year alone, he had been busy recuperating from various Divine Calamities afflictions. Moreover, now that he knew that his father, Yi Tianxing was still living, he felt that he had to seek his father's blessings and nod in approval. However, he did not know where his father had gone to. He tried to find him at the valley where he had first

encountered him but he was not there. He even went to the vicinity where his mother had been buried but he could not find him either.

Lele immediately knew that Yi Ping was troubled. She stroked her long flowing hair gently as she winked at Yi Ping to distract him, "Today, we are going to the upper realm. I have always wanted to know what is up there."

She looked at Yixian and Lie Qing who looked at her quietly.

Even Yi Ping was smiling bitterly as he muttered, "We don't know if the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation is able to work. This is a gambit. I still think if anyone wants to give it up, there is still time..."

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "I am going. Nothing will change my mind!"

Yujian and Meijian said at the same time melancholy, "Even if we turn to ashes together, we are not afraid!"

Lie Qing said with an enchanting smile, "What makes you think I am going to leave you with Lingfeng?"

Yixian said gently and her expressions were full of conviction, "Ping'Er, we will never part again."

Yunzi nodded, "If we are unwilling, we will have already told you so. Whether we will succeed or not, let fate be our guiding hand!"

Youxue said, "I have never regretted knowing you and Sister Lingfeng. Even though it is a big risk to take and no one has ever tried it before, I am not afraid."

Lingfeng sighed softly and her eyes were beaming, "Everyone..."

Yi Ping nodded and he finally let go of a heavy burden in his heart, "Then so be it. Whether we can all live or die, it doesn't matter anymore as long as we can all be together!"

He took bold stride towards the Jade Emperor and he was suddenly on his knees!

The Jade Emperor was startled, "What is going on? Please get up first..."

Yi Ping bowed three times, "This is for taking care of my infant on my behalf. Whether we can succeed or not, I will never see her for a long time."

The Jade Emperor stroked his long beard, "She is also my kin. What a thing to say. Naturally I will take care of her. Please get up."

Yi Ping was trembling as he picked himself up, "Thank you!"

Lele said quietly to the Jade Emperor, "Grandpa, thank you..."

The Jade Emperor sighed, "Not at all. Lele, you must also take care too and get along well with everyone. Be strong. Let me ask you, how your proficiency with the Crescent Moon Sword Techniques and have you met any opponent that can best you while you are using it?"

Lele replied quietly, "Yuan Shao, an elder from the Virtuous Palace is able to best me."

The Jade Emperor said, "This is not shameful. The Virtuous Palace is renowned for their swordplay. In the upper realm, there are many powerful opponents. So be careful. Don't forget to refine your sword techniques or else even if you have a divine sword in your hand, it is just a useless toy."

Lele nodded tearfully, "I will. Grandpa, you must take care of yourself too..."

The Jade Emperor patted her on her shoulder, "Don't cry Lele. You have already grown up and a mother now. It is getting late or else if we continue to chat like this, you will miss the auspicious timing."

The Jade Emperor looked at Yi Ping and said solemnly, "Yi Ping, take care of Lele and don't let her come to harm's way. Or else I won't let you off!"

Yi Ping bowed with his hands, "I will definitely do so, Jade Emperor..."

The Jade Emperor interrupted with a laugh, "You should call me Grandpa too."

Yi Ping corrected himself as he smiled broadly, "Yes, Grandpa!"

He paused for a while before he said, "Grandpa, there is something that I should tell..."

All of a sudden, Lingfeng walked up to him and laughed softly, "Yi Ping, don't worry too much, alright?"

Yi Ping said, "But Lingfeng..."

Lingfeng gave him a hostile stare for a second before she broke into a smile, "You worry too much, my hero."

Yi Ping sighed. He knew that Lingfeng did not want him to reveal the truth to the Jade Emperor and had interrupted him.

Silently, Shen Xingyue and Lele exchanged knowing glances with each other without anyone noticing.

Shen Xingyue had walked quietly beside Yi Ping and said, "Yi Ping, we still haven't decided who is going to take the inner formation."

All of a sudden, Yi Ping was jolted!

It was because Shen Xingyue and Lele had a quarrel last night on that and it took them almost all night to persuade the both of them to calm down.

Shen Xingyue had wanted to take the inner formation because that was where she could be the nearest to Yi Ping so that she could act as his guardian. She was the highest level celestial and Yi Ping would be safe in her hands if she was in the inner formation.

The nine maidens had grouped themselves into three teams. Lele, Yixian and Lie Qing were in the same team. Youxue, Yunzi and Lingfeng were in the second team while Yujian, Meijian and Shen Xingyue were in the third team.

The Ultimate Celestial Star Formation consisted of an inner formation and two outer formations. These three teams were supposed to take a place in the formation.

Shen Xingyue said coolly, "Since Yi Ping can't decide things, then let's our martial skills decide it!"

She had drawn out her Blue Heavens Divine Sword but Lele was not slow; she had drawn out her Divine Echo Divine Sword.

Immediately, a brilliant flash of light imploded and the furious clash of the two divine swords caused a shockwave that rippled throughout!

This was followed by a series of small globe of lights as Lele and Shen Xingyue displayed their attacks furiously and in a blink of an eye, dozens of strokes were exchanged with astonishing speed!

Yi Ping was panicky. Even though he knew that their strokes were not killing strokes and were mostly feints but a weapon had no eyes. So he shouted panicky, "Stop it, both of you!"

The rest of the maidens could only watch helplessness. It was because Lele the Joyful Goddess and Shen Xingyue the Fiery Phoenix were two of the highest level celestials. Moreover, they had a divine sword in their hands and when they fought, the deadly sword energies of their divine swords rippled around them like deadly death rays!

Not only was Yi Ping panicky, the Jade Emperor and the Celestial Liege were too!

All of a sudden, Yixian the Celestial Fairy was in their midst, drawing her Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword and displaying the Divine Emerald Skill with it.

The Divine Emerald Skill was a defensive skill that could form a formless shield with the sheer martial force of the practitioner's martial power.

Startled by Yixian's abrupt sudden entrance, both Lele and Shen Xingyue were forced to take several steps backward!

Lele immediately said, "Sister! She tries to bully me! Come help me. Just because she thinks she has the higher state of celestial divinity, she thinks she can bully us into submitting to her! She seems to have forgotten that other than us, there are no others that can understand the Celestial Star Formation better!"

Shen Xingyue sighed softly, "I am just afraid she may be distracted and

that could spell disastrous for us. Separating her and Yi Ping may be a better idea.”

Lele said exasperatedly, “Who says I will be distracted? Don’t forget that I am the one that taught everyone the Celestial Star Formation. There is no cause for concern...”

Yixian smiled gently at Lele, “My Joyful Goddess! This is the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation. Even if you are familiar with the formation but this formation requires the co-ordination of everyone. Since Sister Xingyue will like to take the place of the Inner Formation, why don’t we do as she suggests? In the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation, the most vulnerable person is actually Yi Ping. With Yu’Er and Mei’Er expertise in their Dual Inertness Intricacy, they will be able to aid Ping’Er. In fact, they will be able to aid him more than anyone of us with their Wordless Heart Intricacy Skill.”

After Yujian and Meijian had become a celestial practitioner, they had advanced their Dual Inertness Intricacy and had progressed to the Wordless Heart Intricacy Skill level, a skill that allowed them to relate their emotions to the others.

And it was a skill that they had enjoyed relating to Yi Ping to tell him constantly of their silent sentiments for him!

Yunzi and Lingfeng looked at Yi Ping and pleaded to him with their eyes...

Yi Ping nodded at them and he quickly said aloud, “The inner formation is crucial to the entire Ultimate Star Formation. With Yu’Er and Mei’Er current skills, they are now able to perfectly execute the Celestial Star Formation flawlessly. Moreover with Xingyue in the inner formation, she may be able to aid me if something really goes wrong.”

He sighed melancholy, “The inner formation is not the most dangerous when the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation is executed. I am more worry about the two outer formations. If Lele, Yixian and Lie Qing can be at the outer formation to aid Yunzi, Youxue and Lingfeng, I will feel more secure.”

He added with a heartfelt sorrow, "What good is it to me if Yunzi, Youxue and Lingfeng perish at the outer formation just to protect me? I rather I will be the one that perish in their stead instead."

Lele sighed melancholy, "Ping'Er, don't be sad. I...I will go to the outer formation then."

Lie Qing comforted Lele with a smile, "That is my good sister!"

Yi Ping nodded and his eyes were full of appreciation.

When Lele saw his appreciative eyes, she was comforted and her disputes with Shen Xingyue seemed to be forgotten quickly.

However, Yi Ping did not know that Lele and Shen Xingyue were merely putting on an act together to fool him...

Yi Ping said, "Let us begin now. It is high noon already."

The Celestial Liege bowed with his hands, "Yi Ping, we will surely meet again. Till then, don't die!"

Yi Ping bowed with his hands too as he said, "I will. Till we meet again! Farewell!"

The Celestial Liege laughed aloud, "Farewell!"

The Jade Emperor, the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling began to walk to a safe distance to observe the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation that was taking place in front of their eyes.

From afar, they would see nine brilliant flash of lights.

When the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation had taken place, misty columns of ice and dust flurried everywhere, obscuring the view of Yi Ping and the nine maidens.

The entire misty mountain began to shake violently as tremors after tremors were felt!

Even though the Jade Emperor, the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling were all standing far away from the Ultimate Celestial Formation, the winds that were being generated from the formation threatened to knock them to the

ground!

It was a lucky thing that they were all internal martial exponents. Immediately they had all displayed the Thousand Weight Skill to stabilize themselves!

By now, they could no longer see Yi Ping or anyone in the formation. They could only see columns of mists and dusts spreading threatening in all directions as though the entire mountain would be devoured in the aftermath of this supernatural force!

The Jade Emperor sighed, "I have heard that the Celestial Star Formation is a killer of the celestials. Now that I have witnessed it, I believe it."

Even though they were standing very far away, they were still being hit by high speed pebbles that were flying in all directions.

Ye Ling said quietly, "Let's hope that this transmigration will be successful. I really hope to see them well."

The Celestial Liege had broken in cold sweat as he looked at the electric dark clouds above which had turned azure color!

Even the Jade Emperor had broken into cold sweat as he saw the purple and red electric clouds that had burst into flashes of binding light every now and then with thunderous trembles!

Forks of purplish lightning bolts, literally hundreds of them were raining on the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation as it thundered violently and frightening throughout the vicinity!

The Jade Emperor was trembling as he muttered, "So this is the final Divine Calamity that will take place before the ascension to the Ninth Heavens?"

As he said that, the entire mountains were being blasted thunderously and rocks were exploding violently in all directions!

Ye Ling quickly said, "We must retreat even further! This place is too dangerous and it may collapse at any time!"

The Jade Emperor nodded reluctantly.

As soon as they had evacuated further away, the position that they were standing earlier were suddenly covered by destroyed boulders that weight hundreds of tons and a freak lightning bolt had even struck at the same position that they were at earlier!

The Jade Emperor, the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling turned pale immediately.

They did not know how long they have been struggling in this supernatural storm but it seemed to take an eternity.

All of a sudden, a brilliant light was seen bursting forth from the misty columns below and into the electric storms above, instantly calming the storm!

For a long while, no one dared to make a move as they waited for the dust to settle.

Was Yi Ping successful? Did they manage to transmigrate to the Ninth Heavens?

When the dust had finally settled, the Jade Emperor was the first to speak but he was looking more annoyed than relieve, "Lele, you have even dared to trick your own grandpa!"

The Celestial Liege was bewildered and he took a quick look at the destroyed platform that was covered with debris and with the soft glittering glow of lights where the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation had taken place earlier, asking. "What is wrong?"

The Jade Emperor said, "To think that I have treated them so well yet they didn't tell me that they can take the divine weapons with them to the Ninth Heavens! Lele, Yi Ping! Your grandpa is really unhappy!"

The Jade Emperor, the Celestial Liege and Ye Ling were also waiting to collect their divine weapons should the transmigration be successful.

The Celestial Liege scanned the surroundings to make sure that what the Jade Emperor had said was the truth before he sighed, "No wonder

they say the martial fraternity is treacherous. Lele has completely double crossed us...”

Even Ye Ling was saying, “Their fights and their quarrels in the past few days were just a ruse to distract us. The Celestial Palace will never let this slight be forgotten. But how are we going to get them now?”

The Jade Emperor was already ranting, “These treacherous martial tricksters, these Dark Celestials, these irresponsible parents, liars, heretics with no honors...”

Chapter 79: The Cosmos Stellar Formation

Furious dust storms flurried in all directions with a force so mighty that Yi Ping had difficulty standing straight.

The Ultimate Star Formation had been formed by the nine maidens and they had been afflicted by the furies of the Divine Calamity. Even though it seemed that the worse of the Divine Calamity seemed to have passed, the furious dust storms had shown no signs of ceasing and everything on the ground seemed to be reversing in an upward direction!

Yi Ping was panicky and he had broken down in cold sweats as he exercised his entire martial power to steady himself. He could only see Shen Xingyue, Yujian and Meijian who had surrounded himself in a tight formation as they raised their divine swords to shelter him from the worst of the Divine Calamity.

He thought, "Have we overcome the worse of the Divine Calamity? But where are the others?"

Yi Ping was calling out exasperatedly, "Xian'Er! Qing'Er! Lele! Yunzi! Youxue! Lingfeng! Are you there? Please answer me!"

Shen Xingyue, Yujian and Meijian were also shouting for them but there were no responses from anyone or from their surroundings.

It was because there were columns of thick dusts everywhere and the winds were gushing so strongly that their voices were drowned out by it. Even the tremendous thunders of the lightning bolts that were flashing all around them were drowned to a whimpering impact!

Even though Shen Xingyue, Yujian and Meijian were just by his side, Yi Ping was shouting aloud to them. "How is everyone?!"

Shen Xingyue was panting heavily as she thrust her Blue Heavens Divine Sword into the ground as she nodded.

Yujian and Meijian were looking tenderly at him even though they were looking extremely tired; their faces were extremely pale but their eyes were full of sentiments and love.

The Ultimate Celestial Star Formation had taken a huge toll on everyone.

Shen Xingyue used her Great Whispering Skill to assure everyone, “Don’t worry. With their martial skills, they should be alright...”

She was not sure and could only pray for their safety!

All of a sudden, there were particles of light that were bursting from the ground!

Shen Xingyue said urgently, “This is just phrase one. After the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation is initiated, we must now find a way to ascend as quickly as possible.”

She paused for a while to catch her breath, “Yu’Er and Mei’Er, there is no time to lose. We must initiate the Cosmos Stellar Formation now or we will lose this chance forever. If we don’t initiate the Cosmos Stellar Formation now, we may put the lives of others in danger.”

She sighed softly as she looked at Yi Ping, “Ping’Er, what do you say?”

Yi Ping was forced to nod as he muttered, “Let’s hope everyone is alright.”

Even though he was unwilling for the Cosmos Stellar Formation to be initiated without knowing if the other maidens were safe but when he saw how weary Yu’Er and Mei’Er were, he was heartbroken and knew that their strength were being sapped away rapidly by this supernatural dust storm.

If Shen Xingyue, Yu’Er and Mei’Er were so drained now, the other maidens could not be faring too well either.

Shen Xingyue sighed softly as she murmured to herself, “If there is anyone to blame or fault, then let me be that person. I hope that everyone well...Forgive me...”

She shouted, “Initiate the Cosmos Stellar Formation!”

She had brandished the Blue Heavens Divine Sword and had thrust it into the ground. Immediately, the ground below exploded into

shimmering blue globes as she said solemnly, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er, quickly. There is no time to lose. Every second is crucial!”

Yi Ping gasped, “Xingyue, wait!”

In the end, he was still reluctant and was fearful for the others. It was because he could not see the others and his judgment had become clouded!

Meijian shook her head but a tearful Yujian tugged her sleeve and said melancholy, “Mei’Er, if we don’t initiate the Cosmos Stellar Formation now, we risk all our sisters. Even though we cannot see them but I believe, I believe...”

Yujian had broken down as she sniffed tearfully, “But....I believes that they are all alright and is waiting for us to initiate the Cosmos Stellar Formation!”

With that, Yujian swung her divine sword, the Harp Whisperer in an arc into the ground. Immediately, golden shimmering light bursts out from the ground!

The Harp Whisperer was a divine sword with a special characteristic that was unusual; it was able to slice through the air silently and without warning!

Mei’Er took at long glance at Yi Ping with bleary eyes...

Yi Ping was trembling and his face was grim. Slowly, he nodded before he finally said, “Mei’Er, let’s do it. I am willing to believe that they are still with us.”

Mei’Er cried briefly before she swung her Lyrical Whisperer into the ground in a golden burst of bursting light.

The entire ground began to shake violently as Shen Xingyue, Meijian and Yujian grabbed Yi Ping by his shoulders as brilliant light burst all around them, colliding with the dust storms around them apart in a thunderous howling conflict!

There were thunderous explosions all around them as everyone felt a

strange sensation that seemed to be tearing them apart!

Shen Xingyue gasped breathlessly, “It is the Divine Thunder from the celestial realm! The only time we can hear it, is when the earthly heavens and the celestial heavens have collided with each other! The ascension is now taking place!”

Yi Ping felt as though his entire bones were breaking apart. He began to shout aloud as he mustered his entire martial power to struggle against the excruciating pain!

Yu’Er and Mei’Er had already broke out in soft screams while Shen Xingyue had exercised her entire martial power to display the Divine Rejuvenation Force to resist the pressuring colliding force of the forced ascension!

Yi Ping embraced all three of them tightly as he exercised his Absolute Equilibrium Force to his limits. If he did not know his limits previously, then he knew it now!

His vision was now blurring and his head was wobbling but he was holding them tightly while murmuring, “Xingyue, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, please endure. I will use my life to protect you...”

Yu’Er leaned weakly on Yi Ping and her eyes were bleary but she forced herself to look at him as she muttered almost incoherently, “Master...Yi Ping, I am content that you are with me. Don’t you worry about me. You must live well...”

Yi Ping gripped her tightly as he shouted panicky, “Yu’Er! Yu’Er, don’t fall asleep!”

Mei’Er had been holding herself back and she had long exhausted her internal strength. The toil of executing the Cosmos Stellar Formation had sapped all her strength. She coughed out blood and was muttering incoherently, “Master, you must live...I...going to miss...you...”

Yi Ping cried out as he gripped Meijian, “Mei’Er! Wake up! Not you too! Yu’Er, Mei’Er!”

By now, Yi Ping had nearly lost all his sight as he gripped and called

their names panicky...

All of a sudden, the martial force around them weakened and the collision forces that were pressuring them had suddenly increased many folds!

It was because Shen Xingyue had exhausted all her martial power and had fainted in his embrace!

Even though her Divine Rejuvenate Force was an epitome skill that could rejuvenate her internal vital energies but this pressuring colliding force was a natural phenomenon that was too much even for her to handle. Moreover, she was trying to protect everyone and her internal injuries were the most serious!

Yi Ping knew that Shen Xingyue's injuries was the most severe even though she did not say it.

He could only mutter weakly and wobbly as he gripped the three of them, "Xingyue...if anything happens to you...I...and Yu'Er, Mei'Er, I don't want anything to happen to anyone of you..."

With one desperate martial shout, Yi Ping re-mustered what little strength that he could muster as he raised his hand upward to display the Asper Divinity Horizon Hand as three bursting rings of martial force exploded one after another around him!

But before he could execute the full force of the Asper Divinity Horizon Hand, his blood had reversed and at the same time, the pressuring colliding forces that was around him had also come crushing down on him!

The next thing he knew, he had blanked out and everything had turned into darkness!

Chapter 80: The Celestial Realm

When Yi Ping regained his conscious, he felt excruciating pain all over his body.

He tried to move his body and slowly opened his eyes.

When he opened his eyes, he was immediately dazed by the many beautiful maidens that were surrounding him!

Yixian smiled gently at him, "We have been calling you for ages but you didn't seem to hear."

She paused for a while to dry her tears before saying, "We thought that you have fallen into a coma...we are so worried..."

Yi Ping muttered, "Xian'Er, you are here. I am so glad. Is...everyone alright? Everyone has made it? Did we succeed?"

Lie Qing laughed softly as she winked at him, "Yes, we have all made it! We are now in the Celestial Realm now!"

Youxue, Lingfeng, Youxue and Shen Xingyue were nodding at him with eager expressions as they exclaimed together, "That's right!"

Lie Qing said, "This place is so beautiful. There are mountains everywhere. I have never seen anything as beautiful as this."

Lingfeng smiled alluringly, "There are only mountains in the Celestial Realm..."

Lele was trying to interrupt amidst the jovial cries, "So this is the Celestial Realm, huh? Yi Ping, what do think we should go next? Should we go into the town and say hello to the other Celestials?"

"Town?"

Everyone except for Lingfeng was bewildered as they looked curiously at Lele.

Even Yi Ping was startled as he tried to stand up for a better view at his surroundings.

It was because everyone could tell that they were on a grassy mountain slope surrounded by majestic mountains everywhere.

Yujian and Meijian immediately said, "Master, let us help you!"

Yi Ping smiled at them, "I am alright. Are you much better now?"

Yujian pursed her lips, "I am alright..."

Meijian smiled sweetly, "Don't worry..."

Yi Ping nodded as he looked at his surroundings keenly.

Indeed, they were standing on a mountain platform. There were mountains everywhere. They were standing on a high point and could see hundreds of visible misty mountains and dozens of rainbows could be seen in all directions! The view was extremely breathtaking.

Yi Ping was silent. It was because other than mountains, waterfalls, clouds, flowers, trees and grasses; there were nothing else!

He thought, "Where is the town?"

He turned to look at Lingfeng and Lele for answers and he decided to ask something dumb, "Is this the Celestial Realm? There is a town in this place?"

Lingfeng smiled at him alluringly, "Indeed, this is the Celestial Realm. Here, there are no oceans, only endless mountains and oceans of clouds. As for towns, yes there are indeed towns in this place. But as for why Lele knows, I really do not know."

Yi Ping turned to look at Lele, "There is a town nearby? Why didn't I see it?"

Lele stroked her long hair gently as she smiled mysteriously, "It is just a lucky guess. No matter how desolate a place is as long as there are people, they are bound to group themselves into clans and organizations."

Yi Ping was dumbfounded as he slowly said, "Even though there may be towns in the Celestial Realm but we are in the middle of nowhere. Finding a town will be difficult. First, we need a plan on our next destination."

The maidens nodded as they looked at one another quietly.

Yi Ping asked Lingfeng, "What will our next move be first?"

Lingfeng sighed softly, "First, we have to recuperate first. Next, we have to find out our next location but it won't be easy. The Celestial Realm is an infinite realm and there are places that even the Ancient Celestials did not explore yet. Next, we must find the Universal Old Man and then determine the next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary. Also, we must avoid the settlements."

Lele asked curiously, "Why? We should pay the Celestials here a visit and even learn from them!"

Lingfeng sighed softly, "The Celestial Realm is divided into many domains. There are many celestial clans here and the rivalries between the clans are even more intense than the Mortal Realm. If a fight breaks out between us, we may not be able to win against them. Don't forget that they are celestial practitioners that have already ascended and we have not. Moreover, we will risk hurting the innocent bystanders."

Yunzi asked curiously, "Innocent bystanders? There are mortals here?"

Youxue asked too, "There are mortals in the celestial realm?"

Lingfeng sighed softly, "There are many mortals but I wouldn't call some of them as mere mortals. Many of them are Dark Celestials and they feed on their kind here so that they could retain their youthful appearances forever."

All of a sudden, Yixian, Lie Qing, Lele, Youxue and Lingfeng turned around at the same time as they scanned at their surroundings keenly!

To the others, they could see no one approaching but Yi Ping knew that for the five of them to be alarmed at the same thing would only mean one thing; they had detected the presence of someone!

Yixian was the first one to speak, "A group of five is approaching us rapidly. From their swiftness movement, they are all super exponents! Be wary!"

Lingfeng looked anxious as she said, "Be vigilant! They may not be friendlies and would seek to exterminate us."

Yunzi asked, "They would kill us? Why?"

Lingfeng explained solemnly, "If an ascending Celestial were to land in a hostile domain, they would either be quickly recruited or exterminated. The Celestials here see everyone as a rival."

Yi Ping clenched his fists as he trembled. He knew that these nine maidens had all sustained internal injuries and like him, was in no state to fight back against the well prepared and powerful celestials here.

Lele had already stepped forward as she winked at Shen Xingyue, "It seems that you are in terrible need of a rest. Why don't you recuperate first?"

Shen Xingyue smiled weakly, "As though you are faring better than me? Your internal injuries aren't light either. I am sure that you are pretending otherwise."

Lele swung her long black scythe and her Divine Echo Divine Sword before saying coolly, "At least I am much better than you."

Lie Qing smiled with amusement at their antics as she sighed exasperatingly to herself, "Sometimes I can't if their rivalries are real or just mocks."

She took out the Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword and the White Phoenix Divine Sword at the same time. She took a longing look at the White Phoenix Divine Sword before tossing it to Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, take the White Phoenix Divine Sword back. You are going to need it for your personal protection in the future."

Yi Ping caught hold of the White Phoenix before saying, "Qing'Er, you don't need your sword?"

Lie Qing smiled mesmerizingly, "I am no longer the Luminous Star that you have known in the past. Maybe I am never her in the first place. Over the years, I have grown attached to the Perpetual Darkness and moreover, the White Phoenix regards you as the true master now."

Yi Ping sighed as he stared blankly at the White Phoenix, "What is Luminous Star without the White Phoenix?"

Lie Qing looked at him coyly, "I am always your Qing'Er. Destiny arranges for Sister Xian'Er to give you the White Phoenix on my behalf. It shows that I have never forgotten about you. But now, this White Phoenix belongs to you."

Yixian coughed weakly but she was smiling gently at Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, destiny comes and goes. The White Phoenix is reawakened because of you and has chosen you as the rightful master to wield it. This is your destiny now."

Everyone could tell that Yixian's internal injuries were not light but she simply refused to divulge the real extent of her injuries!

All the maidens were willing to fight for the sake of Yi Ping and for the other maidens but only Yixian, Lie Qing and Lele were still able to muster whatever little strength that they had.

It was because Yixian the Celestial Fairy had taken the blunt of the earlier Divine Calamity and had sheltered them from the worst attacks with her Divine Emerald Skill.

Lele nodded as she placed the Divine Echo in Yi Ping's hands. "The Divine Echo has awakened because of you too. It is not a coincident that both divine swords choose to reawaken at the same time together."

Shen Xingyue nodded, "Indeed. I have never heard of two divine swords that willingly choose the same master at the same time."

Yi Ping gripped both the White Phoenix and the Divine Echo in his hands. Immediately there was a divine resonant from the two swords as rainbow hues glowed from within the scabbards!

Yi Ping muttered, "Divine Echo and White Phoenix..."

Lele placed her hands tenderly on his arm as she looked up at him with tender eyes, "You know why I have given you the Divine Echo in the first place..."

Yi Ping nodded but he had almost cried out, "Lele, I know. But even with two divine swords in my hands, what is the use? I should be the one protecting you and everyone!"

Yixian interrupted all of a sudden, "They are here!"

Before they had reached, their malevolent killing intent had already reached!

A group of five, four men and a maiden had suddenly jumped down from the steep slope of the mountains and were staring at them blankly. Three of them had red eyes while the maiden and another man had golden eyes!

The three men with red eyes were obviously Dark Celestials while the other two with golden eyes were ascended Celestials!

All of a sudden, their malevolent killing intent decreased drastically. The men were staring blankly at the nine maidens because their sights were so enchanting and mesmerizing. It was impossible to find so many rare beauties at the same time even in the celestial realm!

At the same time, they were also staring dazedly at the number of divine swords that were right in front of them!

Divine swords and metallic weapons were extremely rare in the celestial realm. It was because when a powerful celestial had ascended, they could not bring any metals along with them. Moreover, most of the rare divine relics in the celestial realm were in the hands of the most powerful Exalted and Ancient Celestials!

But today, they had actually witnessed so many metallic weapons!

The beautiful regal maiden with the golden eyes were gasping in astonishment as she shuddered. It was not the sights of the divine swords that had startled her as she stared at the White Phoenix Sword that was in Yi Ping's hand!

She began to look awkwardly at Yi Ping and at Lele, Yixian and Lie Qing. This White Phoenix was a divine sword that was once wielded by her long ago and as for Lele, Yixian and Lie Qing, they were someone that she had known a long time ago!

The man with the golden eyes recovered quickly and said coldly, “We have caught sight of a rainbow omen in the horizon and immediately knows that someone has just arrived in the celestial realm just like us long ago. But we have never expected to find so many people here. So tell me, which one of you are the ascended celestial and which one of you are celestials from the other celestial clans here?”

He had immediately suspected that there was only one ascended celestial and the other nine must be from a rival celestial clan that was surveying the vicinity when they too, saw the rainbow omen.

But when he saw the eyes of the intruders, he was puzzled but he was also relieved at the same time. Celestials with golden eyes were Exalted Celestials and were dangerous. None of the intruders were in his caliber and the threat that they could pose was minimum.

So he laughed coldly, “I am Lian Longba, the lord of this domain. I don’t want to force my hand but if you are willingly to surrender unconditionally, I won’t take your lives. After all, I have always been appreciative and lenient to beauties. So what do you say?”

He took a look at the maiden next to him as he grabbed her waist, “You should know best, right?”

The beautiful regal maiden with the golden eyes began to tremble...

Lian Longba noticed her weird expressions and said coldly, “You know them?”

The beautiful regal maiden nodded slowly and said softly, “Yes, I know them.”

Yi Ping was startled. He looked at the nine maidens but they were all drawing a blank expression. It seemed that none of them knew her!

Lele responded the quickest, “Don’t start claiming friendship with us. Who are you? Since you know who we are, can you name us?”

The regal beautiful maiden seemed to hesitate for a while before she pointed at them, “You are Revelation Star (Yixian), Luminous Star (Lie Qing), Melody Star (Lele), Eclipse Heaven Goddess (Yujian), Axis Heaven

Goddess (Meijian), Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden (Yunzi) and Endor Fairy Vixen (Youxue).”

Lele was stunned as she thought, “How did she know so many of us? But I don’t even know her. Is she someone I know when I was Melody Star?”

Lele was not the only one who was surprised. All the other maidens were equally astonished!

Lie Qing said coldly, “Just who are you? How did you guess who we are?”

Shen Xingyue looked silently at Lingfeng as she thought, “She has mind reading abilities?”

The beautiful regal maiden looked blankly at the White Phoenix in Yi Ping’s hands and at Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing while muttering, “You don’t know who I am? You have forgotten who I am? It is better that you have forgotten about me. I am ill-fated as it is...”

All of a sudden, Shen Xingyue took a trembling step backward as she called out shockingly, “She is the Stellar Heaven Fairy! Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing! She is your celestial protégé mistress in the past!”

Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing were startled as they took a step back. They had little recollections of the past and what little memories that they had was through Yi Ping’s Emptiness Translucence.

Lian Longba laughed heartily as he eyed Yixian lecherously, “So they are your protégés when you were in the Melody Palace? Good! Then they can all serve me just like you have!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy immediately pleaded with him, “Longba, please let them off. You should do more good or heavens wrath will be incurred.”

Lian Longba slapped her hard on her face, “How dare you raise your voice at me. Why do I care about any heavens wrath? Where is the heavens wrath when I have taken you? Remember, I am the master and you are my slave. In the celestial realm, whoever possesses the might is the right and he makes all the rules!”

When Yi Ping saw that he had slapped a vulnerable maiden who dared not resist, he immediately shouted. "A man shouldn't do that! If you want to vent your anger, fight me first!"

Lian Longba hummed coldly, "Just who are you?"

Yi Ping replied coldly, "I am Yi Ping and..."

Lian Longba interrupted coldly, "You are just a half-dead man now and you dare to raise your voice at me? You are courting your own death..."

All of a sudden, there was a forceful martial force around him as he stepped forward with an livid look, "I will show you the difference between an Exalt Celestial from the likes of you!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy immediately said tearfully, "Let them go please. The Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess are from the Ascension Sect. We cannot afford to offend them."

Immediately, Lian Longba seemed to hesitate for a while.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy took quick bewildered glances at Yujian and Meijian. Long ago in the lower realm, the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess were two of the most powerful Exalted Celestials of the Ascension Sect and their celestial attainment was marked by their golden eyes. But now, their eyes were only crimson. What had exactly happened to them?

But when Lian Longba saw that these rare beauties and the divine swords that were almost in his hands, even the vengeful fear from the Ascension Sect did not serve as a deterrent to him anymore. He laughed, "The Ascension Sect won't know. They are so far away and the celestial realm is so vast. When I have seized these divine swords, they will be the ones that should fear me instead!"

The other three henchmen that were with him shifted uncomfortably at the mention of the Ascension Sect.

The Ascension Sect was the most powerful celestial clan in the lower realm in the past for as long as anyone could remember. Their leadership was aggressive in trying to dominate the other celestial clans and this

aggressiveness did not stop at the lower realm and was instead extended to the upper realm as well. Because they had the most number of Exalted Celestials in the upper realm, they did not create their own celestial clans once they were in the upper realm but grouped quickly as a dominating force. Anyone that killed a member of the Ascension Sect was swiftly dealt with and their associate celestial clans would be paid a vengeful visit as well!

Lian Longba shouted at his men, "Calm down! The Ascension Sect isn't here. You have been with me for such a long time and you allow mere words to frighten you? The Ascension Sect may be a large clan but these people aren't even Exalted Celestials. Do you think the Ascension Sect cares about their fates? What do we have to fear them?"

One of the men said, "But they have divine swords. Their backers must be powerful. What if it is the Ancient Celestials, then we are in trouble..."

Lian Longba snapped, "It is obviously that the Stellar Heaven Fairy is just trying to use the Ascension Sect to frighten us. The Dominating Aura Clan has many associate celestial clans as allies. Do we need to fear the Ascension Sect or even the Ancient Celestials even if it is true?"

Yi Ping coughed weakly as he stared angrily at Lian Longba, "You call yourself an Exalt Celestial? Yet you are no different from a bandit!"

Lian Longba hummed coldly for he was not going to take this insult lying down!

With a sudden flash, he had leapt upon Yi Ping with a tremendous speed and had raised his powerful martial palm straight on his forehead!

The windforce that was generated from Lian Longba's palm was so powerful that the entire air exploded thunderous!

Yi Ping quickly put aside the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix as he raised his palm to receive to receive the blow as he thought panicky, "His martial power is the same as when I have used the Asper Divinity Horizon Hand? And he has used it so casually..."

All of a sudden, Yixian was in their midst with a supernatural speed and

had raised her hand with the Divine Emerald Skill to receive the blow!

There was a tremendous thunderclap and the martial force that exploded was so powerful that Yi Ping was flung off his feet! Even Lie Qing, Lele and the rest of the maidens could hardly stand on their feet as they were forced to slide backward by the resultant martial force that rippled throughout!

Yixian was forced to take several steps backward as she coughed out blood but her gentle eyes were still looking at Yi Ping, “Ping’Er, are you alright?”

But without waiting for Yi Ping to reply her, she had suddenly collapsed on the ground!

Yi Ping was beside her in an instant as he called out panicky, “Xian’Er! Xian’Er!”

Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue immediately bend down to check her pulses anxiously!

Lian Longba too, was forced back several steps but he had not taken any injuries. He was surprised as he thought, “She can actually take a blow from my Dominating Force?”

In the ensuing conflict, Yixian the Celestial Fairy had displayed the ninth level of the Divine Emerald Skill to absorb Lian Longba’s Dominating Force. The Dominating Force was too much to handle even for the Celestial Fairy, shattering her Divine Emerald Skill in her weakened state and it had taken a heavy toll on her physically!

There was a burst of seven wisps of blue energetic glow around Lie Qing as she raised her Perpetual Darkness. Immediately, blood began to trickle from the tip of her lips as she stared at Lian Longba coldly, “Sister Yixian may not lose to you if she is not injured. Don’t be conceit yet, I am still around!”

Yi Ping knew that Lie Qing had forcefully exercised her Invincible Divine Force and if she used her Pandora Merciless Strike, the backlash on herself would be fatal in her present state!

He panicky tried to shout for her to stop but before he could call out, his vital energies had reversed and he had coughed out a bout of blood as he fell backward!

Yujian, Meijian, Yunzi, Lingfeng, Youxue and Shen Xingyue panicky surrounded him!

Lian Longba laughed, "Do you think you have completely elude my Dominating Force?"

Lele raised her long black scythe and she was suddenly solemn. The usual expressive glow in her eyes had completely disappeared and her crimson eyes were murderous!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy quickly pleaded to Lie Qing and Lele, "Step back! You are not his match! Run!"

Lian Longba laughed, "They won't run. It is because they can't bear to abandon this handsome man. That will be their downfall and will be their lifelong mistake. They really have no idea what they are facing and did not know who exactly I am. Oh mine, today is simply my lucky day and the best day of my life!"

Lie Qing said coldly, "I don't care if the Stellar Heaven Fairy is my protégé mistress previously or not. I won't make the same mistake as her. I will sooner die than fall into your hands but I will make sure that you perish along with me!"

Chapter 81: The Awakening of the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword

Lian Longba laughed heartily at Lie Qing's boast, "You really think you got a chance against me? You are all but inferior celestials that meant nothing in my eyes."

But secretly when he saw the seven wisps of bluish glows around Lie Qing, he was immediately cautious. It was because he had recognized that martial force to be the Invincible Divine Force and it was an extremely powerful martial skill.

He immediately thought, "Why don't I test their martial skills first?"

So he raised his hands and gave a signal to his three henchmen, "Take them all and bound them. I want to have a little fun with them later."

The three henchmen grinned wickedly as they leapt towards Lie Qing and Lele with startling speed! The three of them were Dark Celestials and they had killed countless celestials. In the martial fraternity, they were considered to be super exponents!

But no sooner had they leapt in front of Lie Qing and Lele in an attempt to show off their martial prowess, the Perpetual Darkness that was wielded by Lie Qing developed a dark halo, instantly blinding them like an event horizon. In split second, these three men were all cut down by Lie Qing and Lele!

Lian Longba could not believe his eyes that these two maidens could cut down three of his most powerful protégés with so little effort!

He had intended to use his three protégés to test their martial skills. He was literally speechless with anger, not at the two maidens but at his three protégés as he thought angrily, "Fools! Stupid idiots!"

The three Dark Celestials had allowed themselves to be lured into complacency, thinking that their protégé master and their fellow protégés would intervene when necessary. Moreover, they had their orders not to hurt these maidens who had been cornered by them.

But they had never expected their complacency would cost them their lives as they had not expected these two maidens were super exponents in speed attacks!

Lele swung her long black scythe and pointed at him as she said coldly, "Now it is your turn!"

Lian Longba said coldly as he ignored Lele's threats and looked at Lie Qing, "The divine sword that is in your hand, is it the Perpetual Darkness?"

Lie Qing hummed coldly, "That's right! Now you are afraid?"

Lian Longba replied coldly, "It is just as I have thought. I have never expected to see the Perpetual Darkness in the Celestial Realm and I don't know how you manage to bring it here either. My protégés are blinded by the Perpetual Darkness and got themselves killed without knowing the reason why. However I am in a totally different league from them. The Perpetual Darkness is an ancient divine sword and one of the seven most powerful celestial weapons in the lower realm. And today, I will make this divine sword my possession!"

All of a sudden, he had descended upon Lie Qing and Lele at the same time with the explosive power of his Dominating Force!

Lele was immediately forced to take several steps backward as she could not resist the powerful windforce of the Dominating Force in her weakened state nor did she want to take him headlong.

Lie Qing immediately zapped him with two sword bursts but it was quickly dissipated by his martial windforce!

Once again, Lie Qing displayed the event horizon of the Perpetual Darkness as she bended behind the blinding dark halo of her divine sword as she slashed furiously at him!

But Lian Longba seemed to have predicted all her attacks and dodged all her sword strokes. Before Lie Qing could unleash more attacks, he was on her and had sent a forceful palm attack toward her!

She immediately retaliated with her left hand to receive his blow!

There was a explosive thunderclap and both of them were flung to opposite sides!

Lie Qing coughed out a mouthful of blood as she said weakly, "Ping'Er, I have done my best. I pray that it will be enough..."

Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng and Youxue were on her side as they quickly tried to revive her vital channels but Lie Qing did not respond anymore!

All of a sudden, Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue burst into sorrowful tears!

Lingfeng was trembling as she wept aloud, "Qing Qing, even though we have not really known each other for a long time but I have always known that you are a sentimental maiden with a good heart..."

Lian Longba was on his feet immediately but not before he had coughed out a bout of blood. He simply could not believe that this enchanting maiden would be able to injure him! He had thought that she was depending on her divine sword and her Invincible Divine Force for protection. But he did not expected that she would channel all her Invincible Divine Force from the defensive to the offensive!

He immediately thought, "Is she courting her own death!?"

But before he gave further thoughts, a flying sword had burst through the air with a startling speed towards him!

He immediately reacted by dodging the flying sword; it was flung by one of the nine maidens, a maiden with a quiet demeanor.

It was Yunzi and she had aimed at him with her deadly Flying Sword Technique!

Barely had he dodged her flying sword, Lele had swung her long black scythe at his back!

Just as Lian Longba had retaliated by sending a forceful attack at Lele, he was suddenly attacked by Youxue out of the blue as she struck him three times on his back!

He was stunned at how this maiden could attack him so silently. He coughed out a bout of blood but not before he had retaliated and struck

her forcefully!

Xiao Youxue took seven steps back before she collapsed with a weak smile, “Lie Qing, Yixian, Yi Ping, I hope that I didn’t disappoint any one of you...”

Just when Lian Longba had struck Xiao Youxue, Yunzi had drawn out a soft sword from around her belt and had quietly displayed it into a flying sword and had dismembered his right arm!

The force of her flying sword was so great that it rebounded back again when it had struck the ground to give Lian Longba another painful slash on his back!

If Lian Longba was not a super exponent with a powerful external force protecting him, he would have been sliced into two halves!

Lian Longba yelled out painfully with a maddening rage. He immediately sealed his accupoint channels on his right shoulder and stared furiously at Yunzi!

Yunzi had timed her flying sword at the moment that he had retaliated against Youxue when his Dominating Force was at its weakest.

Lian Longba was momentarily stunned. It was because at his current Dominating Force level, he was almost impervious to external attacks and blows. At most he could suffer external cuts but cutting his arm off was a near impossible feat!

Lian Longba was about to leapt to Yunzi when two beaming golden lights flashed in his sight!

It was Yujian and Meijian!

Yujian said tearfully, “You don’t deserve to be a Celestial. You are a demon!”

Meijian cried out, “You will pay dearly for this...”

Lele cried out as she rained down dozens of swinging attacks on Lian Longba, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er, step aside!”

But it was already too late; Lian Longba did not restrain himself

anymore. He was hopping mad. With just a few strokes, he had struck Yujian and Meijian to the ground!

Shen Xingyue tried to stand up and exercised her internal strength but she was too weak. She threw up blood and fainted!

Yi Ping had just opened his eyes when he saw Yujian, Meijian and Shen Xingyue collapsing one after another!

He was dumbfounded as he took a quick look at his surroundings and saw Yunzi, Lingfeng and Lele were the only ones that were left as they battled Lian Longba.

Yixian, Lie Qing and Youxue were lying on the ground and were not moving!

Yi Ping tried to pick himself up but he had coughed out another mouthful of blood before he collapsed weakly on the ground again as he muttered, "Xian'Er, Qing'Er, Youxue, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Xingyue..."

Lian Longba had grabbed Yunzi with his left hand and had slammed her on the ground, "You dare to dismember my arm! You dare to dismember my arm! You will pay dearly for this!"

But Yunzi had already fainted and could not hear his abusive swears anymore!

Lingfeng and Lele had attacked Lian Longba at the same time.

At the same time, Lingfeng was exclaiming breathlessly, "Let go of her!"

In her haste, she had used the Asper Horizon Hand on Lian Longba, who counter attacked with his Dominating Force Palm. There was a loud thunderclap and Lingfeng was quickly overpowered. She was wobbly and fell backward!

At the same time, Lele was fatally struck on her shoulder by Lian Longba. She coughed out blood as she took feeble leaps.

Just as Lian Longba was about to give Lingfeng a strike, the Stellar Heaven Fairy had intercepted him as she pleaded, "That's enough. Let them go please!"

Lian Longba shouted angrily, “So you are betraying me. Just because I have lost my right arm, you think you have a chance to win against me? Don’t forget your internal strength is just a third of what you have previously.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy quickly took a few gentle steps backward beside Lingfeng and Lele as she said melancholy, “Yes, I want to betray you. I want to kill you! You are a beast! I want to kill you ever since you had forced yourself on me and had nearly crippled my martial skills. Even if I were to die today, I have no regrets! You are the one that deserved to die instead!”

Lingfeng and Lele looked at her quietly. They had never expected that the Stellar Heaven Fairy would actually intervene on their side. But their hopes quickly collapsed when they noticed that the Stellar Heaven Fairy’s martial strength was just on par with them. Even if the three of them combined, they would never be Lian Longba match!

Lian Longba stared angrily at them, “Very good. I shall cripple all your martial skills permanently and I will make your lives a living hell. Then you will know that I am forever your master and you are all just my obedient slaves!”

Lele was grateful to the Stellar Heaven Fairy for intervening. Even though she did not say a single word, her eyes expressed her innermost heartfelt gratefulness. The reason why Lele had suddenly grown quiet was because she was channeling all her vital breath to replenish her vital energies as quickly as possible. In the ensuing fight with Lian Longba, she had taken mostly evasive maneuvers that had extracted upon her a great deal of physical fatigue.

Lingfeng was in a worse condition than her. She was looking extremely pale and she could barely stand steadily. It was only through her sheer willpower and determination that she was still standing.

She thought miserably, “Now I really wish I am the Heaveness of old... I...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy had lifted her long sleeves as she stepped

boldly in front of Lele and Lingfeng as she said expressionlessly, “Run, I will delay him for you. Don’t look back and don’t hesitate...”

Lian Longba shouted as he leapt forward to rain dozens of attacks on them, “Do you think that I will allow my prey to escape right in front of my eyes?”

But the Stellar Heaven Fairy intervened with dozens of hand gestures and intricate strokes as she whispered panicky to Lele and Lingfeng, “What are you waiting for? Run!”

When Lele saw the Stellar Heaven Fairy’s strokes, she was spell bounded by it as she thought, “These strokes...are so vaguely familiar. Don’t tell me, she is really my protégé mistress in the past?”

Lingfeng raised her hands to send dozens of secret projectiles toward Lian Longba but it was quickly deflected to one side!

At the same time, Lian Longba had overpowered the Stellar Heaven Fairy and had struck a heavy blow on her. Instantly, there was a tremendous impact and the Stellar Heaven Fairy had lost her footing as she stumbled backward!

Just as Lian Longba was about to deal her another blow, Lele had intervened with dozens of rapid swings and he was forced to somersault backward but not before he gave a powerful kick at her!

Lele was forced to block his kick with her hands and the force of that impact immediately flung her aside!

Lian Longba recovered quickly and he was astonished to find that the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lele and Lingfeng were already standing in a tight formation, supporting one another with their arms as they stared at him. It seemed that they were telling him that they would not give up unless they were dead!

Lian Longba thought, “It is obviously that they won’t rest until they are dead. Even though I cherish beauties but if I am careless, I may lose my life instead. This is most unfortunate but they have left me with no choice!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lele and Lingfeng were only putting on a brave front. Their internal injuries were severe and they had already expended most of their internal strength.

Lingfeng closed her eyes as wet tears fell silently as she muttered, “Yi Ping, I...I am so sorry. I am the cause of everyone’s miseries. Nothing will atone for my mistakes. I shouldn’t have even suggested everyone to accompany me. Please forgive me...”

Lele muttered, “That’s alright. That is our destiny...”

Just as Lian Longba had barely taken two steps, he was startled to see that the young man that they had called Yi Ping had stood up quietly; his face was as white as sheet and he could barely stand straight.

He thought, “He isn’t dead yet? What is he made of?”

Lingfeng and Lele gasped, “Yi Ping!”

Yi Ping gripped the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix that was in his hands tightly as he murmured, “Everyone...Lingfeng, Lele...I am so useless. I cannot even protect everyone...Lingfeng, I can hear your thoughts. You don’t have to blame yourself. Qing’Er, I will avenge you...”

Lingfeng broke down and she was weeping tearfully. She covered her mouth with both hands as she muttered almost incoherently, “No, it is really my fault. I am the one that cause everyone to be in this state...”

Lian Longba interrupted with a martial shout as he leapt upon Yi Ping, “Enough! Do you really think I am invisible? Let me send you to your death now!”

He did not believe that Yi Ping had any strength left and believed that he was just stubbornly putting on a brave front. He had already witnessed his martial skill and did not consider him as a threat. Experiences and martial skills required time to learn and perfect. When there was a level gap, there was nothing a martial practitioner could do to overcome a strong opponent unless he had superior techniques on his side.

Much to the startled cries of Lele, Lingfeng and even the Stellar Heaven Fairy as he leapt upon Yi Ping with a startling speed and expecting him to

be killed instantly with a quick blow, the two divine swords that were in Yi Ping's hands began to reverberate and bursts of sword energy flew in circular arcs towards him!

Lian Longba was stunned and he was forced to evade and deflected the sword bursts as he abandoned his attacks, "Divine Echoes of the divine swords! He can awaken these divine swords? But he is just a low level celestial! In his present condition, he is still capable of executing sword energies? Is he mad or he did not want his life anymore?"

Sword energies could only be wielded when a martial practitioner had not suffered any internal injuries. Even a little internal injuries would result in a permanent stroke or even phenomenon deviation!

While Yi Ping was anguish with himself for being useless and unable to protect all his love ones as he watched them fell one by one, he had prayed silently. "Our levels differences are too great. I just need some martial strength but I have expended all my martial power during the ascension to the celestial realm...is there really no other way? No, evil won't triumph over good..."

All of a sudden, he stared at the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix as he murmured, "If you are divine swords, lend me whatever strength that you got..."

Suddenly, a burst of sudden strength emerged from him and he could feel that the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix had suddenly become extremely light! To his surprise, he had overcome the Enlighten Level and had suddenly attained the Emotion Level! As his celestial divinity increased, he found the strength to move again!

When a celestial practitioner had attained the Emotion Level, they could become one with their weapons. When this emerging occurred, it would appear as though their weapons would become lighter, faster and the strength of their attacks would also increase!

Just as Lian Longba was hesitating before he made his next attack against Yi Ping, his opponent had coughed out a mouthful of blood and had staggered backward!

Lingfeng and Lele immediately flew to his side as they caught hold of him, crying aloud at the same time!

Yi Ping muttered semi-consciously, "Did I succeed? Did I kill him?"

Lele cried out melancholy, "Yes, you have killed him. Don't worry...take a good rest first..."

Lingfeng held Yi Ping as she replied with utmost grief, "Don't worry. You have already done your best!"

Even the Stellar Heaven Fairy could not hold back her tears anymore as she witnessed the concerns that they had for one another!

She muttered to herself, "I really envy them. To think that the White Phoenix that I used to wield is now with this young man..."

It was only then that Lian Longba knew that this Yi Ping had overtly exerted himself and had tried to bet his last strength against him.

Just when he was about to interrupt their precious moments, he had a sudden wicked thought. Therefore he called aloud, "If you are willing to submit to me, then I will spare this young man's life. What do you say?"

Lele tried very hard to suppress her tearful emotions as she threw her long scythe on the ground, "I submit...please don't let him die..."

Lingfeng said melancholy, "Lele...a wicked man like him won't keep his promises..."

Lian Longba laughed, "With so many alluring beauties by my side, I will surely keep my promises. This I can assure you..."

All of a sudden, Lian Longba could sense an extremely cold aura that had suddenly emerged and he quickly turned around in alarm.

A maiden, whose beauty was like a heavenly goddess was standing at a side and she was looking coldly at him. In her hand was a beaming golden sword. It radiated a golden halo that was disappearing and reappearing constantly while resonating its divine echo!

It was Yixian the Celestial Fairy!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was gasping, “She has awakened the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword?! Is it even possible at her current attainment?”

Only celestial practitioners that had attained the Seventh Sense Level and above could possibly awaken the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword. Even her protégé sister, the Stardust Heaven Fairy did not succeed in awakening the Heavenly Earth Sword when she had it. As for herself, she had never managed to awaken the White Phoenix either.

Yet today, she had witnessed the divine echo of the awakened White Phoenix, the Divine Echo and the Heavenly Earth Sword!

She was so moved by the sight that she could not control her trembling!

Yixian had fainted earlier. But when Yi Ping had reached the Emotion Level earlier and merged as one with the White Phoenix and the Divine Echo, her Heavenly Earth Sword had reawakened at the same time.

The awakening of the Heavenly Earth Sword had also lifted her state of divinity from the Upper Emotion Level to the start of the Transverse Level!

The Emotion Level was a huge hurdle for Yixian to overcome. With her cultivation in her Emotionless Heart Intricacy Skill, she had quickly attained the Emotion Level. But because of her secret affections for Yi Ping, she had virtually hit a wall and her risk of phenomenon deviation was very real; her clan Emotionless Heart Intricacy Skill was the main obstacle for her.

The heartfelt sorrows of everyone and the awakening of the Heavenly Earth Sword had lifted her state of divinity. This advanced her Emotionless Heart Intricacy Skill, allowing her to grasp the secret intricacies of the Emotionless Divine Heart Intricacy Skill!

Yixian muttered, “Ping’Er if you are not around, what is there for me to live for?”

Lian Longba said coldly, “I can assure you that you will soon forget about him once you have known me.”

He had immediately raised his powerful Dominating Force Palm at her!

Yixian immediately lifted her vital strength and displayed dozens of piercing Jade Icy Fingers, countering his powerful Dominating Force Palm as they exchanged dozens of moves in a split second!

Lian Longba knew that she could not last long against his furious attacks as he had noticed that blood was constantly dripping from the side of her lip; she had internal injuries and was forcefully using her internal strength.

Lian Longba said coldly, "Maiden, you better stop or you will lose all your internal strength permanently and may even die. It is futile. I am not an Exalt Celestial for nothing..."

No sooner had he said that, Yixian had swung the Heavenly Earth Sword at him with her Frosty Icicle Swordplay as she sent a wave of cold piercing sword energy in an explosive arc that imploded the ground all around them!

Lian Longba immediately mustered all his entire martial power as he deflected the sword energies attacks into nothingness with his left palm. All of a sudden, he was zapped by a sword energy that negated his Dominating Force and left a cut on his chest!

He immediately coughed out blood and thought bewilderedly, "This! This is not any normal sword energy. This is the Universal Force! How is it possible for her to even display it?"

He did not know that the Heavenly Earth Sword was a celestial sword that was capable of unleashing the Universal Force but there was a heavy price for using it; it extracted a heavy toll on its wielder. In Yixian current state, she was in no condition to use it.

Yixian coughed out blood after she had executed the Frosty Icicle Swordplay. As she collapsed to the ground, she muttered almost incoherently and her eyes had a thousand affections. "Ping'Er...take care..."

At the same time when Lian Longba was wobbling, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lingfeng and Lele had made their last desperate moves and had struck him with dozens of explosive attacks!

Lian Longba painfully shouted a martial shout as he enveloped himself with his Dominating Force once again. He was able to neutralize most of their attacks including Lele's wicked slashes until she swung her long scythe between his legs!

Lian Longba immediately collapsed on the ground, refusing to believe that an Exalt Celestial of his caliber would actually fall today!

The reason why Lele could succeed in her dirty attack was because she had ensured that all her strokes were orthodox moves even during the most dire situations. A typical fighter may be forced to display a few unorthodox moves when there was an opening. But Lele had waited patiently for the right opportunity to strike to her unsuspecting opponent.

Chapter 82: The Stellar Heaven Fairy

Yi Ping knelt on the ground and was smashing the ground in front of him furiously until his fists had turned bloodied. He was lamenting woefully and his tormenting pain reached the hearts of everyone that was standing behind him!

Lying in front of Yi Ping were Lie Qing and Yixian; their faces were serene but no matter how much Yi Ping had grieved aloud to them, they would not hear him anymore. It was because they were now in a suspended state of animation!

They had grievously overextended their limitations and broke their meridian channels.

Yunzi covered her mouth as silently tears fell as she said tearfully to Yi Ping, "They have sacrificed their lives for us. The Icy Heavenly Tears is able to protect Sister Yixian's vital channels while Sister Lie Qing has the protection of the Golden Invincible Body. If we can find a miracle herb, one day, we can surely revive them..."

Yi Ping caressed Yixian and Lie Qing with trembling hands as he muttered coarsely, "Xian'Er, Qing'Er, how can you bear to leave me on my own? Xian'Er, didn't you promise to be with me through weal and woes? Qing'Er, didn't you say, you would want to be with me till the oceans dried up and the earth crumbled to dust? After we have been through so much together, you leaving me on my own?"

Yi Ping threw the two Heavenly Relics furiously to one side as he laughed aloud, "Why Heavens is so unjust to me? Why did Heavens allow us to acquaint once more but only to separate us once again?! Why is that I can't turn these two Heaven Relics into the Divine Dragon Pills? Is it because my internal strength isn't enough?!"

Mei'Er said melancholy, "Master, it was divine occurrence that the Heavenly Relic was able to transmute into the Divine Dragon Pills the last time. But that was entirely a chance occurrence that may never happen again. That is already considered a great miracle the last time..."

Lele's eyes were bleary red and had kept to herself even though the other sisters tried to comfort her as well. It was because she was closest to Yixian and Lie Qing, both who had shared the same fate as her.

Lele finally muttered and her voice was sorrowful, "If Sister Yixian and Sister Lie Qing did not try to protect me during the divine ascension, they would not possibly sustain such severe internal injuries and allowed that Lian Longba to seize his chance. Among the three of us, my martial skills are the weakest. I didn't train hard when I have the opportunity. It is my entire fault. I...I don't deserve any forgiveness!"

Yi Ping banged his fists on the ground in great misery, "Lele, it is not your fault. It is my fault! If only I am stronger. If it isn't for my weakness, Xingyue won't sustain her internal injuries and she may be able to contribute to the fight..."

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "Ping'Er, don't blame yourself please. No one would have known this would happen."

Lingfeng cried out softly, "It is because the middle formation is the weakest link. If only we are stronger, everyone would not need to put on such a terrible struggle!"

Youxue broke down tearfully, "We are just trying to take on a ride to the Celestial Realm but we aren't strong enough on our own."

She looked tearfully at Yixian as she wept uncontrollably, "Long ago, I try to kill you. But you have not only forgiven me but have even taken me in as your protégé as well as a dear sister..."

She turned and looked tearfully at Lie Qing, "Lie Qing, do you still remember how we have met? Do you still remember the fights that we all had with each other?"

She paused for a while before lamenting aloud, "Do you all know how much I wish that I am the one that is lying down now and not you?!"

Yi Ping muttered, "Youxue..."

Yu'Er sobbed, "Enough! Do you think my protégé mistress will be happy if she knows how depress everyone is now? We should be strong, for their

sake. If we want to avenge protégé mistress and Sister Lie Qing, we must quickly recuperate from our injuries and take vengeance on the Dominating Aura Clan!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quietly, "Lian Longba isn't the only strong Exalted Celestial in the Dominating Aura Clan. His protégé master Ximen Nanqing and advisor She Weilun are terrifying opponents as well. If Ximen Nanqing found out that we have killed his direct protégé, no matter where we go he will surely seek vengeance upon us. We should flee as far as possible while we can."

When she had mentioned Ximen Nanqing, her body began to tremble; she was genuinely afraid of him!

Yi Ping said bitterly, "With their dark deeds, they are obviously Dark Celestials and do not deserve to be Exalted Celestials. As long as they live, more innocents will come to harm."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped, "Surely you are not thinking of going to the Dominating Aura Clan? Don't go, you are not their match! None of you are. Or else..."

She was silent but she forced herself to say aloud as she wept, "Or else... I won't fall victim to them and ruin my state of divinity..."

Yunzi understood her miseries and the shame that the Stellar Heaven Fairy was facing as she embraced her arms quietly.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy wept, "Do you understand my innermost sorrows? My shame will never go away and nothing that I do can ever cleanse my spirits..."

Yunzi said quietly, "I understand. I surely understand. It is because I have gone through the same thing as you. Maybe not as hurtful as what you have felt but nevertheless, it is a stigma that refused to go away. Your heart is pure and you should put the past aside."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled bitterly, "My heart is not as pure as you thought."

She took a quick glance at Lele as she wept aloud, "In the past before I

had ascended here, I was Melody Star's protégé mistress. But do you know that her close sisters and she aren't our only successors? The Celestial Star Formation is a difficult formation for many of the celestial practitioners of the Melody Palace. If they fail to gain control of the Celestial Star Formation, then they would be killed and another group from the Melody Palace will be there to take their place. This will repeat until a group eventually succeeds in gaining control of the Celestial Star Formation and gain mastery of the three divine swords. If you want to know, I am the ninth group myself. I was there when I witnessed their deaths...they were all my older protégé sisters..."

She could not continue anymore. She had completely broken down when she recalled how her protégé sisters had died as they failed to direct the Celestial Star Formation one by one.

This was the tragic secret of the Melody Palace!

Lele said coolly, "This is to ensure that only the best protégés could inherit the three divine swords and eventually ascend to the Ninth Heavens. Most will die anyway even before they could even reach the Crisis Level. Since they have to die anyway, so you don't have to feel sorry or guilty."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy glanced at Lele bewilderedly as she trembled lightly as she thought, "She is not Melody Star but why is that her mannerism is the exactly the same as her?"

She knew that she was only trying to comfort her. By now, she had known that Lele was not Melody Star. But she could not help feeling that the way Lele acted was exactly the same as Melody Star!

Yi Ping cried aloud, "Xian'Er, Qing'Er. Wait for me. I will join you..."

All of a sudden, there was a loud slapping sound as Shen Xingyue gave Yi Ping a resounding slap as she said hurtfully, "You are so selfish. There are still so many of us. If you are gone too, do you think we will want to live in miseries alone?"

Yi Ping muttered, "Xingyue..."

Lingfeng lowered her glances as she said quietly, "We may still have the chance to revive Sister Yixian and Lie Qing."

Yi Ping's heart skipped a beat as he said hurriedly, "Lingfeng, why didn't you say so earlier?! Why wait till now?!"

Everyone stared at Lingfeng and were all wondering the same too!

Lingfeng said melancholy, "I have only just thought of this. It may or may not work. The possibility of it succeeding is very slim and it requires great sacrifices."

Yi Ping panicky said, "Please say it. No matter how slim it is, I am willing to try it!"

Yu'Er and Mei'Er had both cried out at the same time, "We are willing to try! Please tell us!"

Yunzi said quietly, "Lingfeng since you know the means, why don't you reveal it to us? No matter how slim the chance is, we are not afraid!"

Youxue added anxiously, "That's right!"

Shen Xingyue said, "My Heavenness, hurry and tell us!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled. She was unclear if she had heard it right as she thought, "Heavenness?! One of the seven most powerful Celestials in the Celestial Realm?!"

She looked at Lingfeng but no matter how keenly she had observed from her state of divinity, she did not look like an Ancient Celestial, much less an Exalt Celestial!

Lingfeng looked panicky at everyone before she composed herself and said solemnly, "I will need the internal strength of seven willing maidens to open my Heaven Eyes. I can use the absorbing skill of the Holy Amalgamate Skill and through the use of the Seven Stars Formation to accomplish that. But that is just a chance."

Everyone was stunned and looked at each other.

Shen Xingyue was the most distrustful as she said quietly, "Surely you are not thinking of stealing our internal strength so that you can

overcome your own state of divinity?”

Youxue was trembling, “Good sister, if you think that may help then I will be willing to sacrifice my internal strength.”

Mei’Er cried out, “I am willing no matter the price. My protégé mistress is also my benevolent mistress...”

Yu’Er cried out too, “I am willing too!”

Yunzi did not say anything but looked quietly at Yi Ping...

Yi Ping was silent. If they gave up part of their internal strength, their state of divinity may suffer and even their next Divine Calamity would be difficult to overcome!

So he said, “I don’t see how it is going to help. No matter how much internal strength a person has, it can’t be used to revive anyone. Lingfeng, what good is your Heaven Eyes?”

Lingfeng replied softly and her alluring eyes were full of affections, “I can’t save them at all...”

Even though Yi Ping was expecting it but he was nevertheless disappointed with the reply as he murmured, “That’s alright. You are only trying to give us a hope...”

Lingfeng said solemnly, “But I am not joking. I am not the one that is able to revive them. It is you, Yi Ping.”

Yi Ping was startled as he looked at her, “I can?”

Everyone was equally startled as they looked at Yi Ping.

Yu’Er asked Lingfeng, “What does opening your Heaven Eyes have to do with master? He is not the one that we are transferring our internal strength to.”

Lingfeng looked up silently into Yi Ping’s eyes as she said, “I have previously used my Great Emptiness Translucence to transfer the essence of the Divine Dragon Pill that I have consumed to you. Yi Ping, you have taken two Divine Dragon Pills. If you are willing to give up the essences of the Divine Dragon Pills inside you, then Yixian and Lie Qing may have a

hope of reviving.”

Yi Ping said excitedly, “Lingfeng, do you mean that if we can open your Heaven Eyes then through me, you are able use the same skill that you have used on me to revive them?”

Lingfeng nodded, “It is a gambit but is worth a try.”

Lele protested immediately, “I refuse to allow it! Do you know what this will mean? Yi Ping may die!”

Xingyue looked away tearfully, “Or become an idiot even if he does not die...”

Yu’Er covered her face with both hands as she sobbed, “Master...”

Yunzi said quietly, “What if it didn’t work? Then all of us will lose our precious internal strength for nothing. I don’t mind losing some of my internal strength but if Yi Ping loses the essences of the Divine Dragon Pills, his cultivation will surely suffer a tremendous decline. Either way, Yi Ping is putting himself at risk.”

Youxue said melancholy, “Yi Ping, you may die if you give up the essences of the Divine Dragon Pills that you have consumed. Do you know?”

Yi Ping was silence for a moment before he said, “I am willing no matter what.”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping became quiet. It was because the truth had finally dawned upon him.

He looked at Youxue, Yunzi, Xingyue, Lele, Yu’Er and Mei’Er before sighing, “But there are only the six of you here. We still need one more maiden to help Lingfeng opened her Heaven Eyes...”

In the end, they could do nothing about it.

Everyone looked downcast.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was greatly moved by Yi Ping love for Yixian and Lie Qing that she had stepped forward quietly as she said, “If you still need one more helper, I am willing to help.”

Everyone was startled!

Yi Ping stammered, "You are really willing to help?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy nodded, "I am willing."

Yi Ping could not believe his ears as he asked again, "You are willing to sacrifice your precious...internal strength?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled gently, "I am willing but the other six maidens have to be willing as well, am I right? Some may not be too willing."

Lele was startled that the Stellar Heaven Fairy was willing to sacrifice her internal strength for Lie Qing and Yixian as she muttered, "You don't have to do so for a gamble. This doesn't concern you."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled gently, "I am willing. It is not because you resemble my former protégé disciples. But rather, I am touched by everyone's willingness to sacrifice for one another. This..."

She was suddenly melancholy as her eyes became watery, "This selfless love is supposed to be the law of practice for the protégés of the Melody Palace. It is what it means to be a Celestial. It is exactly why we aspire to be a Celestial in the first place. But this is something that it is difficult to achieve in the Celestial Realm. I have long been disillusioned with living here. I want to do something good to feel human again. I wish I have never ascended to the Celestial Realm..."

Lingfeng lowered her glances and her heart was throbbing with heartfelt memories. She understood her feelings perfectly. That was the reason why she had forsaken her celestial practice to be a human...

Youxue looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "You are really serious?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled gently as she nodded.

Yunzi and Shen Xingyue smiled at her, admiring her courage and self-sacrifice.

Shen Xingyue knew that if the Stellar Heaven Fairy did not have this self-sacrificing spirit, she could never have ascended in the first place. In

the past, she must be a highly attained Exalted Celestial...

Yu'Er and Mei'Er were embracing the Stellar Heaven Fairy happily as they introduced themselves, "I am Yu'Er, she is Mei'Er. What is your name? Your real name?"

All of a sudden, Yi Ping realized that he had not asked for her namesake and yet she was doing them a great favor. He was immediately ashamed of himself as he stammered out, "I offer you my profuse thanks on behalf of everyone! May I know maiden name so that I can remember your good deed in my heart?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy replied, "Shishi. That's my name. Shi as in poetry."

Yi Ping said, "Maiden Shishi, thank you..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled, "You can thank me afterward. It is still too early for that. You are Yi Ping?"

Yi Ping answered, "Yes indeed that is my name..."

Lingfeng interrupted coldly, "If I don't keep a watchful eye on you, you will be off chasing skirts!"

Even though Lingfeng was just teasing Yi Ping, Lele, Xingyue and Youxue all gave Yi Ping a cold stare.

Yi Ping panicky said, "Lingfeng, look at what you have done!"

Lingfeng said, "What did I do? I am only stating the obvious. If that is not your intentions, you shouldn't really worry."

Yi Ping sighed to himself, "I know that Lingfeng is trying to lighten the atmosphere up. She meant well..."

He quickly composed himself as he asked solemnly, "Xingyue, Lele, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Youxue, Yunzi...are you willing to..."

But before he could finish, the seven maidens had all grouped around Lingfeng as they said at the same time. "Tell us what to do!"

Lingfeng cautioned solemnly, "The seven of you will form the Seven Star

Formation and act as a funnel to transfer your internal strength through me while I use the Holy Amalgamate Skill to gather your internal strengths with mine to force open my Heaven Eyes.”

Lele said, “The Holy Amalgamate Skill is a variation of the Celestial Force Skill. I can give you the intricate formula to offset the risks.”

Lingfeng smiled with gentle appreciation, “No need. I am just using the Holy Amalgamate Skill in tantamount with the Great Emptiness Translucence. There is no risk in that. However, whether my Heaven Eyes can be forced open, it is hard to say ...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy still had a doubt, “I have heard of this Heaven Eyes before. You are really the Heaveness?”

Lingfeng nodded lightly.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled as she staggered back as she muttered, “That’s impossible...”

Lingfeng said quietly, “I explain later.”

Yi Ping asked, “Lingfeng, is there anything I can do?”

She turned and looked at Yi Ping, “Yi Ping, meditate first and try to recuperate as much as you can. I...never mind...”

Yi Ping asked curiously, “Lingfeng, yes?”

Lingfeng sighed softly, “Don’t you turn into an idiot or die. If you dare to die, I will follow you. Do you understand? If you become an idiot, I will care for you forever.”

Chapter 83: The Heaven Eyes

Seven maidens stood in a seven pre-determined positions as they aligned themselves according to the constellation of the seven stars.

The order of the alignment was in this following order; Lele, Yunzi, Youxue, Mei'Er, Yu'Er, Xingyue and the last was the Stellar Heaven Fairy.

Lingfeng nodded at them but at the same time, she stole a glance at Yi Ping who was meditating anxiously next to Yixian and Lie Qing who were slumbering serenely.

She quickly composed herself as she looked intently at the seven waiting maidens.

Lingfeng was secretly anxious. It was because she was not sure if it would work but she had proposed it as a last desperate measure. She did not want to see Yi Ping and the others fall into despair. But if she failed, they would lose their internal strength for nothing and even Yi Ping would lose his life!

She sighed quietly to herself, "But if I do not propose this, you will be unhappy for the rest of your life. How can I not know when I can read your innermost thoughts through my Great Emptiness Translucence? Let fate determine our destiny for us then..."

"Lingfeng, are you alright?" Yu'Er asked.

She recollected her thoughts as she smiled, "I am alright. I am just thinking about something."

Yi Ping stood up as he was not able to focus on his meditation, "Lingfeng, you must be careful. Everyone, I am grateful to all of you..."

Mei'Er nodded melancholy, "Master, we will be alright. You must take care..."

Yi Ping smiled at Meijian, "Don't worry, alright?"

Mei'Er nodded weakly and she was trembling.

Shen Xingyue, Youxue, Yunzi, Yu'Er and Lele were all looking at Yi Ping

with longing glances too. It was because they feared that after today, they may lose him! Compared to his sacrifice, their sacrifices were insignificant!

Lingfeng sighed softly everyone as she forced herself to interrupt their sacred moments, “After I have displayed the Holy Amalgamate Skill, everyone must strike me with your internal strength on my right hand gesture and my heart accupoint. There must be no hesitation and everyone must strike as fast as possible so that I can synergy your internal strengths as one. Afterward I will gather your internal strengths to force open my Heaven Eyes. Now, does anyone have any further questions?”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping asked. “Lingfeng, what if your Heaven Eyes cannot be forced opened?”

Lingfeng smiled at him, “We leave it to fate, alright? Let proceed with it now.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quietly, “She will die if she fails to open her Heaven Eyes. She doesn’t want to tell anyone because she did not want anyone to worry.”

Yi Ping was startled, “Lingfeng! Why didn’t you tell us?!”

Even Xiao Youxue, Yunzi, Shen Xingyue, Lele, Yu’Er and Mei’Er were stunned.

Lingfeng took a quick look at the Stellar Heaven Fairy before she smiled faintly at Yi Ping, “Yi Ping, be quiet alright? The risk is small, really.”

Yi Ping was trembling as he clenched his fists, “Lingfeng, I know you are lying. You have exactly the same expression as the Heaveness when you are lying. I can never forget that expression that you have when you lied to the White Sage on that fateful day when you decided to leave. That memory is so fresh in my mind till today...”

Lingfeng smiled gently at him, “You are thinking too much.”

She quickly said to the seven maidens as she mustered the martial force of the Holy Amalgamate Skill around her, “Quickly! I can’t maintain this

for long!”

Lele hesitated for a while as she stole a look at everyone before she sighed softly, “Forgive me...”

She imbued her fingers with her martial power as she moved forward and struck Lingfeng’s right hand gesture and her heart accupoint with a forceful impact!

Blood dripped from the tip of Lingfeng’s lip as she trembled lightly when she received and absorbed Lele’s internal strength through her right palm!

At the same time, Lele had turned pale immediately as her internal strength was drained away from her. But she recovered quickly as she called out in alarm, “Yunzi! Hurry! Her vital energies are starting to reverse! She doesn’t have enough internal strength!”

Yunzi quickly imbued her fingers with her martial power, striking Lingfeng in the same position as Lele!

Lingfeng continued to tremble and she was looking extremely pale!

Yi Ping shouted, “Lingfeng, are you alright?! Stop it please...surely we can think of another way?”

This time, he was really fearful for Lingfeng!

But Yunzi interrupted, “Youxue, Mei’Er, Yu’Er, quickly!”

Youxue, Mei’Er, Yu’Er, Xingyue and the Stellar Heaven Fairy ignored Yi Ping’s pleads as they danced forward and struck Lingfeng’s one after another!

Finally, the seven maidens grouped around Lingfeng as they struck Lingfeng’s on seven of her major vital channels with their fingers as they transferred their vital internal strengths to her!

By now, Lingfeng was extremely pale as she tried very hard to remember the intricate formula of the Heaven Eyes as she tried to unblock her Heaven Eyes’ crucial vital channels. It was a skill that she was extremely proficiency in the past but now, she lacked the state of divinity to use it.

Knowing the skill did not make it easier for her. The Heaven Eyes was a celestial skill that took her a long time to perfect to its current state of divinity when she was the Heaviness. But as a mortal, that state of divinity was beyond her present celestial cultivation!

It must be noted that she was only borrowing the internal strengths of the other seven maidens in an attempt to clear the crucial vital channels that the Heaven Eyes were utilizing. The Holy Amalgamate Skill like other absorbing skills did not have the ability to absorb the internal strength of others as their own permanently. Rather, it was used to replenish their own internal strength and to clear crucial vital channels. That was what Lingfeng was doing now.

All of a sudden there was an evil laughter from their surroundings and from behind the shady trees, a handsome man in a scholarly robe walked calmly into their view! He had a pair of golden eyes and there was no doubt about it; he was an Exalted Celestial!

All eight maidens began to tremble and turned pale immediately! It was because they were in a crucial maneuver and could not move or else they would have experienced phenomenon deviation immediately!

The handsome scholar laughed lecherously, "What do we have here? There are so many heavenly maidens in this place? I am really lucky. Shishi, why didn't you introduce your friends to me?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy coughed out weakly, "He is She Weilun and he is a rotten bad egg!"

She Weilun laughed, "No wonder Lian Longba did not return. Shishi, you dare to betray the Dominating Aura Clan. Do you know the consequences that befall traitors? It is not too late to yield to me. But I am wondering what did you do with Lian Longba? The likes of you wouldn't have possible defeated him?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy hummed coldly.

Yi Ping immediately recalled that this She Weilun was an advisor to Ximen Nanqing and he was one of the two men that the Stellar Heaven Fairy had cautioned him about!

Yi Ping had raised both his divine swords as he staggered forward, “Leave or else I won’t be polite!”

She Weilun eyed Yi Ping and everyone with a calculated look as he smiled. It was because he had already noticed that they were all inferior Celestials and none of them were in his league. The difference between an Exalted Celestial and a Lower Celestial was vast. Unless an Exalted Celestial was careless, most Lower Celestials simply did not have any chance against an Exalted Celestial!

So he laughed as he looked greedily at Yi Ping’s divine swords, “What can you do with me? Surrender your divine swords to me and I may consider sparing your pathetic life.”

Yi Ping shouted angrily, “You despicable man! I don’t know how a despicable man like you manages to become a Celestial in the first place!”

She Weilun had already noticed that the eight maidens seemed to be immobilized and they were attempting a dangerous internal martial arts maneuver. If they were distracted, then it may be fatal to them and they may be afflicted by phenomenon deviation!

Lele almost cried out as she gasped softly, “Ping’Er, don’t be rush. I... we...will be ready soon...”

Shen Xingyue coughed out blood immediately as she lost her concentration, “Ping’Er...”

Yunzi and Youxue had immediately coughed out blood; it was because they knew that Yi Ping would surely attack She Weilun in order to protect them!

And before the rest of the maidens could stop him, Yi Ping had already leapt towards She Weilun with a startling speed with his two divine swords as he displayed his Horizon Swordplay, sending two flurrying sword arcs at his opponent!

Yi Ping thought, “Lingfeng, Yixian, Qing’Er, Yu’Er, Mei”Er...all of you. I will protect you with my life...”

She Weilun grinned.

Immediately he sped forward and raised his hand forward at the same time as he evaded Yi Ping's rippling sword arcs. In a blink of an eye, he had struck Yi Ping on his chest with a tremendous implosion!

Yi Ping was flung off with startling speed towards a large tree with another thunderous impact!

Yi Ping coughed out blood as he rolled on the ground!

He was trembling nonstop! It was obvious that he was trying to stand up but his body refused to heed his will even though he had exercised his Absolute Spirits intricacy! He was not afraid of pain and was renowned for his endurance but this time he was completely at the mercy of his physical limitations!

Yi Ping clenched his teeth as he continued to struggle to stand as he thought, "Oh Heavens, is it because my internal injuries are too severe that I am unable to stand or is my enemy is too strong that my body trembles in fear?"

All eight maidens immediately cried out, "Yi Ping!"

The eight maidens were startled and were fearful. The swordplay that was displayed by Yi Ping was not weak. In fact, it was an intrigue swordplay that was not only swift and deadly. Even a super exponent could not possible evade and counter-attack at the same time against Yi Ping's swordplay but his opponent's reflexes was simply too startling!

With one stance and barely a blink of an eye, She Weilun had defeated Yi Ping!

She Weilun hummed coldly, "Even with two divine swords, you won't stand a chance against me. I just don't understand how an inferior Celestial like you will have such prized divine swords?"

Just as he was full of boasts for himself, he was startled to see that Yi Ping had stood up again. Instead of a broken opponent, he could sense that his opponent's fighting spirit seemed to have increased!

He murmured, "That is impossible. I have used seven folds of my Golden Thunder Hand. An Inferior Celestial will not possible still have the strength to stand. Don't tell me, he could draw upon the strength of the divine swords?"

All of a sudden, She Weilun had sensed a killing malevolent air from Lingfeng.

She had stepped forward while the other seven maidens had immediately sat in a meditating position to recuperate their internal injuries!

Lingfeng said quietly, "Yi Ping, step aside. I...can handle him myself."

Yi Ping coughed weakly, "Lingfeng, you have succeeded in opening your Heaven Eyes?"

Lingfeng nodded gently and all of a sudden, there was a bright halo that appeared briefly behind her before disappearing in another second!

She Weilun was startled that her eyes had turned into rings of brilliant gold!

He was startled as he thought, "She is an Exalted Celestial too?"

Lingfeng said coldly, "You better flee while you have the chance or else I won't be polite."

She Weilun was not someone who could be cowed by anyone, especially with preys that were almost in his hands.

So he laughed, "So what are you going to do with me if I refuse to leave?"

Lingfeng said coldly, "Then you have to die."

She Weilun laughed aloud, "I don't mind getting killed by a beauty like you."

All of a sudden, there was a rainbow halo that flashed briefly behind her and Lingfeng's eyes had turned green on right and golden on the left. There was a seeping invigorating force that was enveloping her!

She Weilun was stunned by the colors of her eyes as he took a step back, "This...this is impossible...she is an Ancient Celestial?! And the martial force that is around her is the Divine Invigorate Force?"

Little was known about the reclusive Ancient Celestials. They had rarely intervened in the celestial affairs of the Exalted Celestials. But one thing was sure; the earliest records of the Exalted Celestials indicated that the Ancient Celestials were here long before the first Exalted Celestials!

She Weilun was secretly thinking, "I may not lose to her. It is obviously that she is injured. If I can drain her essence, then won't I be even more powerful than Ximen Nanqing? I can be the new leader of the Dominating Aura Clan instead."

But just when he thought that he may have the chance to overpower her, the seeping invigorating force that was forming like vapors around her had aligned into a blue shape of a giant eye that seemed to be staring creepily at him!

He was startled for he had never seen anything like this before.

So he smiled charmingly and quickly thought of a ruse as he said, "Why don't we talk things over first? I can see that you are an Ancient Celestial. I am the Romantic Rustic Wanderer. May I know your celestial name? There must be a small misunderstanding..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy opened her eyes and interrupted bitterly, "He is trying to charm you with honeycomb words. Don't fall for his tricks. His victims are many and his methods are dirty."

She Weilun laughed heartily, "I am the good guy and yet I am being accused as the bad guy. This is indeed laudable. The Stellar Heaven Fairy must be in a good humorous mood today. You are nothing but a *****. The numbers of celestials that have been lured by you to their ends are so numerous that at the mere mention of your name, the entire Celestial Realm knows of your deeds immediately. Do you dare to deny it?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy wanted to say something but the rage emotion had attacked her heart. She coughed out a bout of blood and fainted on

the ground!

Yunzi called out panicky as she abandoned her mediation pose and quickly hit several of her accupoints, “Shishi!”

This was followed by Yu’Er, Mei’Er and Youxue who did the same as well!

Lele was slower as she was still in the midst of a crucial mediation breakthrough. She quickly got up and said with urgency, “Oh no! We must save her immediately! She is afflicted by phenomenon deviation!”

Shen Xingyue had broken out in cold sweat when she had overheard their conversations but Lele had quickly turned to her to say, “I am here to help the Stellar Heaven Fairy. Sister Xingyue, stay focus and don’t get distract.”

She quickly said to the others, “Yunzi, Youxue, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, keep a watchful eye for me as my guardians. I cannot be disturbed.” Almost immediately, Lele had sat behind the Stellar Heaven Fairy and struck on her vital channels with her Celestial Force!

Yunzi, Youxue, Mei’Er and Yu’Er quickly nodded as they stood in front of Lele and the Stellar Heaven Fairy as they eyed She Weilun with burning hatred!

She Weilun smiled, “What is this? I am only stating the truth!”

Yi Ping said, “You are despicable...”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping turned ashen as he staggered backward as he stared at a dark figure behind She Weilun and even Lingfeng was trembling!

She Weilun had noticed Yi Ping and Lingfeng’s expressions as he asked, “What’s wrong? Why don’t you continue? I am tolerant of criticism usually. After all, I am a good guy...”

Lingfeng said quietly, “Look behind you. There is someone behind you right now.”

She Weilun laughed aloud, “Do you think I will be a fool to fall for one

of the oldest tricks in the books? But let me tell you, even if I turn my head back, there is no chance for you to ambush me.”

“She meant well and you better believe her.” An old croaking voice that was behind him was heard saying.

She Weilun had immediately turned pale!

It was because for someone to walk so silently behind him without his knowing, he must be a frightening opponent!

He quickly turned away and was prepared for evasive action when he was struck on his chest by a powerful palm strike! That immediately sent him flying through the air and crashing into a tree with a tremendous impact!

Immediately, She Weilun coughed out blood when that palm strike broke the invulnerability of his Golden Thunder Martial Force!

He looked up and saw a fat old man with long white beard saying coldly to him, “Now scam!”

Even though the eyes of this fat old man were normal but there was no doubt that he was an Ancient Celestial with a profound state of divinity. Only Ancient Celestials could disguise their true state of divinity and moreover, could break his Golden Thunder Martial Force with such ease!

She Weilun sighed at his bad luck. He got up and bowed respectfully, “Before I go, can senior honor me with your name?”

The fat old man growled, “You don’t deserve to know my name. Now go!”

Lingfeng quickly gasped out, “Don’t let him go!”

But She Weilun had already vanished out of sight!

The fat old man said, “If I don’t let him go, do you want me to kill him? That is too detrimental to my cultivation. You should know this...”

Lingfeng said unhappily, “You should at the very least break his vital channels...”

The fat old man was startled as he quickly asked, "My Heavenness. How is it any different from killing him?"

All the other maidens with the exception of Lele and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were astonished that Lingfeng knew this old man and was talking to him as though they were old friends. Even though they were arguing but there were no animosity between them.

But they were also relieved at the same time. It was because at first when they had first caught sight of him, they were wary of him and were secretly afraid that another super exponent had appeared.

Lele was focusing on treating the Stellar Heaven Fairy and was not aware of her surroundings...

Lingfeng said coldly to the fat old man, "What takes you so long to arrive?"

The fat old man replied awkwardly, "Aren't I just in a nick of time? The Celestial Realm is vast and you have come back without informing me. If it isn't for my skills at divination, I wouldn't have even known that you are back. You should thank me instead for coming to your aid. But why are you so weak now?"

The fat old man took a look at the other maidens and were grinning, "You have brought so many friends from the lower realm? How can it be even possible? Don't tell me you have discovered the secret that is left behind in the lower realm by the Dark Lord of the Chaotic Cosmos and..."

All of a sudden, he froze as he caught sight of Yi Ping and looked intently at him. "He looks like our protégé disciple but somehow, he isn't now?"

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he stepped forward, "I am Yi Ping! It is a long story. I can explain later. My respects to the Universal Old Man!"

By now, Shen Xingyue was done with her mediation techniques and when she heard that this fat old man was the Universal Old Man himself, she simply could not believe her ears! It was because the Universal Old Man and the Heavenness were legendary Celestials and their states of

divinities were impossible to guess.

She looked at Lingfeng and secretly thought, “Lingfeng, what else have you been hiding from us?”

Lingfeng said to the Universal Old Man, “Right now, all these are not important. Hurry and give me the Negative Core Divine Pill.”

The Universal Old Man was startled, “My Heaveness, what do you want it for? Do you know how precious this divine pill is? It is the only one of its kind in the Celestial Realm. Have you forgotten how we have risked our lives to take it out of the Stellar Sanctuary? Whether we can survive the Heavenly Wrath the next time, will have to depend on this divine pill...”

Lingfeng said coolly, “So you are not willing to surrender this divine pill to me?”

Yi Ping said weakly, “Lingfeng, we shouldn’t force and impose our wills on others. Let it be...”

The Universal Old Man turned to Yi Ping and said, “I am talking to the Heaveness. Just because you resemble our protégé disciple, you think you can interrupt us anyhow you like?”

Even though the Universal Old Man was speaking slowly but Yi Ping was seized by an invisible chains of fear that caused him to take three unconscious steps backward. The air around them had turned eerie cold!

Yunzi, Mei’Er, Yu’Er, Shen Xingyue and Xiao Youxue wanted to step forward and to interrupt the invisible icy air but found themselves unable to muster their internal strength in their weakened state.

Lingfeng snapped her fingers and broke the invisible icy chains that were strangling everyone as she said coolly, “He is my husband and I am his wife. So you should call him your protégé master or have you forgotten that I am your protégé mistress?”

The Universal Old Man was stunned, “What? He is your husband? That is impossible. Have you forgotten who you are? And when did I become your protégé disciple?”

Lingfeng laughed softly, "It is because our protégé disciple still lives and he is right in front of you now. Therefore I am still your protégé mistress. Have you forgotten about our gambit? You are to address me as your protégé mistress while our protégé disciple still lives."

The Universal Old Man was bewildered and he was stammering, "I...the Heavens is always so mysterious and profound. You better explain to me then..."

Lingfeng said, "Not now. I will need the Negative Core Divine Pill now."

The Universal Old Man asked solemnly, "You still have not explained to me why you need it for?"

Lingfeng looked at Yi Ping as she winked alluringly at him, "I need it to stop someone from turning into an idiot later."

The Universal Old Man looked at Yi Ping and knew who she was referring to but he asked, "Who's that idiot? It will be interesting to know."

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, refusing to say anything or else it would be as good as admitting that he was that idiot.

Yunzi broke into a smile as she said, "Thank you old senior!"

The Universal Old Man asked, "Why do you thank me for?"

Youxue smiled, "Because you are going to save an idiot and we are grateful!"

All of a sudden, Lele interrupted exasperatedly. "Can anyone of you come and help me if you are all so free now?"

Lingfeng immediately turned around and flew to the Stellar Heaven Fairy, hitting several of her pressure points in a blink of an eye as she remembered that the Stellar Heaven Fairy was in a critical condition!

The Universal Old Man was not slow either. He was beside the Stellar Heaven Fairy in an instant as he patted her back gently with his martial force!

Chapter 84: Epitome Divine Skills of the Celestial Fairy and Heavenly Temptress

Yi Ping was alone with Shui Yixian and Lie Qing in a forested glade.

The trees here were beautiful with pink blossoms and delicious fruits were hanging from its branches.

Yi Ping, however was not in the mood to savor its fruits or was here to admire the grandeur of these beautiful trees whose leaves were like willow trees.

Shui Yixian was looking at Yi Ping tenderly with heartfelt affections while Lie Qing was stroking her long flowing hair unhurriedly as she looked affectionately at him.

Yi Ping finally broke the silence as he was feeling awkward, "Xian'Er, Qing'Er, why don't you say something instead of looking at me like this?"

But they just smiled at him idiocy and said nothing.

Yi Ping asked, "Is there something on my face? Is something wrong?"

Shui Yixian lowered her glance but she was soon looking at him again, gently smiling at him.

Lie Qing was swinging her legs to and fro slowly and she too, was smiling. All of a sudden, she flew to Yi Ping's embrace and gave him a gentle kiss on his face.

Yi Ping immediately become fluster as he said, "Qing'Er, we are not alone..."

Shui Yixian said gently, "I don't mind. So why are you minding?"

Yi Ping was startled but he quickly regained his composure as he said, "Qing'Er, we are not married yet. We are Celestials now and you have yet to overcome the Emotion Stage yet. We should put aside mortal emotions aside first. Do you still remember that is the reason why you have allowed me to tag along?"

Lie Qing said enchantingly, "Ping'Er, I don't want to be a Celestial anymore. I want to be with you always. You have saved my life once again. Do you know how silly you are? The other sisters have told me how you are willing to give up your life for Sister Yixian and I. Silly, silly, silly!"

Yi Ping smiled weakly, "This is nothing."

Lie Qing looked at Yi Ping tenderly before sighing softly, "Do you think anyone will give up their only Divine Dragon Pill to save a dying stranger. Do you think anyone will give up even their own life for a "friend"? Ping'Er, are you fooling yourself or I am fooling myself? Are you trying to tell me that I am now just your own sister? Because I can't help but fall in love with you!"

Yi Ping quickly looked at Yixian panicky and wanted to say something but he was so flustered that his mind was a complete blank now!

Yixian smiled gently as she too, looked tenderly at Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, you have saved my life previously. That is why we are bonded as a couple now. Now you have saved my life again, I really don't know how to repay you. I wish I can do more for you..."

Yi Ping said, "Xian'Er, you are my wife. I should try to protect you. There is no need to repay me. Are you still treating me as an outsider till now?"

Yixian lowered her gaze and said shyly, "We are not true man and wife yet because we have not consummate our marriage yet..."

She had deliberately lingered for a while.

Immediately, Yi Ping was so flustered that his nose started to bleed!

He was also stunned at the same time!

It was because he had not expected Yixian to be so bold and moreover in Lie Qing's presence!

Lie Qing laughed softly, "Oh mine, don't tell me my sister is thinking of pledging herself to repay her benefactor! Do you need the Heaveness Temptress to teach you a trick or two?"

Yixian said shyly, "You! I don't need lousy tricks from you especially not

from someone that is bending to steal my husband!"

Yi Ping was completely stunned that these two maidens were being so bold in front of him that his ears were burning. Needless to say, his face was completely flustered and his breathing became hard!

Lie Qing winked at Yi Ping before saying, "Ping'Er, if you are to choose between Sister Xian'Er and I, who you will choose?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he rubbed his nose awkwardly as he stammered, "I...I don't know."

Lie Qing took a quick glance at Yi Ping before adding, "What if you are to choose between Sister Xian'Er and me tonight, who you will choose to be with then?"

Yi Ping was completely defeated by her question that he was looking at Yixian for answers. But Yixian was tapping her fingers on her cheek and was whistling softly. It seemed that she too, was waiting for Yi Ping's reply!

Lie Qing pretended to be upset, "Why don't you say aloud? Are you afraid of upsetting either one of us? Or is it because Sister Xian'Er is here and you are afraid of telling her that you like me more?"

Yi Ping just smiled bitterly and his mind was a complete blank!

Lie Qing looked at Yixian and smiled, "It seems that I am right!"

Yixian giggled gently, "No, you are wrong, very wrong! Ping'Er will surely pick me. That is why I am not worried at all. You better admit defeat and leave now or else you will be left in an awkward situation. Don't ever say, I didn't warn you at all."

Lie Qing muttered as her cheeks had turned rosy, "No, that is not true. He will pick me for sure."

Yixian noticed her flushes and said softly, "The Heavenly Temptress will feel shy? This is really intriguing and a surprising thing that is happening now."

Lie Qing hummed coldly, "Why are you bend on stealing my man? Do

you know that I am trying to help you? The Emotionless Rhyme that you are practicing makes you unsuitable to fall in love and can be detrimental to your future progression if you persist in your wrongful ways.”

Yixian said gently as she looked intently at Lie Qing, “My wrongdoings are my choices. Who I fall in love with is really my business. Moreover, Ping’Er is my husband.”

Lie Qing flipped her long sleeves and stirred up a strong windforce that flurried outward as she looked at Yixian, “Regardless of who Ping’Er decides to choose, you must agree that he will surely pick a living maiden and not a dead maiden. Am I right to say so?”

Yixian had raised her sleeves in front of her and her beautiful fingers were bursting with martial force, “Indeed! The dead doesn’t need to be included. We are both from the martial fraternity. There is no better way to decide than a martial contest to determine it.”

Lie Qing brushed her long hair slowly as she smiled coldly, “Indeed, indeed. The Heavenly Temptress won’t concede to the Celestial Fairy.”

Yixian said, “As do I.”

Yi Ping was stunned. All of a sudden, these two maidens decided to fight against each other!

He was panicky as he quickly urged, “Qing’Er, Xian’Er! Please don’t fight! You have both just recovered from your internal injuries and need to recuperate. This is not the time for infighting. Both of you are sisters and shouldn’t fight...”

Yixian interrupted coldly, “She is not my sister. I don’t have a sister that wants to steal my husband.”

Lie Qing said with equal coldness, “Neither did I.”

Yi Ping had already stood in their midst with outstretch hands as he said panicky, “Please stop! I beg of you!”

Lie Qing said nonchalant, “Then you have to choose from one of us if you don’t want us to fight.”

Yi Ping stammered, "I...I really don't know..."

Yixian sighed softly, "I am your wife and yet you didn't pick me?"

Yi Ping panicky said, "Xian'Er, I don't mean it. Of course, I will pick you..."

Lie Qing said hurtfully, "Then you mean to say, you won't pick me?"

Yi Ping was startled and he tried to explain panicky, "It is not that too..."

Yixian asked quietly, "You already have me and yet you are still thinking of another maiden?"

Lie Qing added coldly, "Maybe not another maiden but one, two, three, four others!"

Yi Ping was beginning to feel wobbly but he had suddenly grown solemn, "I...yes...I don't deserve any of you."

He was muttering, "Lingfeng the Heaveness, Youxue the Endor Vixen Fairy, Lele, Xingyue...I can't erase those memories that I have inherited from the White Sage. I...am sorry..."

He turned around and walked away.

Lie Qing called out, "Ping'Er, wait!"

Yi Ping sighed softly as he stopped in his tracks.

He dared not turn and look at her but he replied almost incoherent, "Yes Qing'Er?"

Lie Qing was looking at his back quietly, "You really going off just like this?"

Yixian asked demurely, "Ping'Er, you are leaving just like that?"

Yi Ping really did not know what to answer so he continued to keep mum.

All of a sudden, there was a loud laughter. "If he doesn't want to choose, then may I choose?"

Yi Ping was startled as She Weilun came into view!

Yi Ping immediately drew the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix from its scabbard as he said coldly, "What are you doing here?"

Lie Qing and Yixian secretly looked at each other as they gave a faint smile that was unnoticed by anyone.

It was because they had already known that there was an intruder earlier and was role playing with each other to lure him out. They also knew that if Yi Ping was presented with a choice, he would not know what to choose. They were hoping that Yi Ping would leave the scene first while they sought out this intruder. However, they were secretly afraid for this intruder was very cautious and from his stealth skills, was also a super exponent. They knew that he was around because he had accidentally given away his presence because of a soft sigh but they still could not pinpoint his location.

She Weilun looked at Yi Ping as he laughed but only after he had stolen a glance at the two maidens, "Why shouldn't I be here? I suppose to be hunting for you. I have been searching for you for 2 whole months in these mountains!"

He looked at Lie Qing and Yixian as he admired their beauties, "You have these two wondrous beauties and yet you simply just walk away? How foolish you are. Maybe I should teach you a thing or two about cherishing beauties."

Yi Ping said coldly, "Despicable. You have been eavesdropping on us?"

She Weilun laughed, "You must be joking. This place is not owned by you. I just happen to be here and overheard you. Where are the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the beautiful maidens that are with you the other day?"

But he added after he had pretended to look around, "Good. Today that old man isn't here. The three of you will be a fitting substitute for my anger. You have no idea how upset Ximen Nanqing is when I have reported to him that the Stellar Heaven Fairy has betrayed us and that his protégé disciple Lian Longba is dead."

When he had just said that, She Weilun had vanished in a flash from his standing position and was upon Yi Ping in a blink of an eye as he

displayed dozens of quick attacks!

He had expected Yi Ping to be knocked down on the ground with such a single hit but he was surprised that his first attack was quickly counterattacked and he was forced to continue his assault with dozens of attacks more!

After exchanging more than two dozen blows with She Weilun and in a blink of an eye later, Yi Ping had counterattacked with the Horizon Swordplay and executed two sword energy arcs in close proximity against She Weilun!

She Weilun was startled for he had never seen anyone who was able to execute sword energies with such a short breathing space and in the midst of a furious exchange.

He gave a loud martial shout as he increased his martial power and smashed the incoming sword energy arcs to nothingness!

But no sooner had he dissipated the sword energies, Yi Ping had struck him on his forehead with a tremendous hit!

She Weilun was stunned and he could not believe that this was happening! It was because two months ago, this young man was not even his match!

He recovered quickly enough and this time, he launched himself at Yi Ping with his swiftness skill and had readied his best fighting technique, the Godspeed Thunder Hand as he cursed loudly, "You will pay for this!"

But no sooner had he took a step forward, Yi Ping had struck him thunderously on his forehead again!

This caused She Weilun to stumble backward wobbly and he could not believe that this was even happening!

How did this young man improved so fast in two short months?!

But before he could recover, Yi Ping had raised his palm outward and had struck his chest with the Asper Horizon Hand!

She Weilun immediately coughed out blood as he fell on his knees on

the ground and he was muttering, "What is going on..."

Even Yixian and Lie Qing were dazzled by Yi Ping quick counterattack!

There were two reasons for Yi Ping's increased attack speed. First, he was badly injured during the divine ascension to the Celestial Realm and could not display his full speed. Secondly, he had consumed the Negative Core Divine Pill and that had pushed his state of divinity to the Transverse Staging! What was previously a blur to Yi Ping, he could now see every single attack that was being displayed by She Weilun, enabling him to counter attack with ease!

The Transverse Stage was a level that improved the reflexes and the ability to see fast movements clearly!

She Weilun tried to stand up weakly, "You are just a lowly celestial and you dare to lift your finger against me..."

Yi Ping interrupted coldly, "Now leave or I will hit you again."

Yixian said coldly, "No wait. You can't let him go just like this. He must be exterminated."

She Weilun was startled as he coughed out another bout of blood, "Do you lowly celestials know the rule of the Celestial Realm? If you kill me, then it will affect your future progression. So you better think twice about that."

Yixian replied coldly, "You are just one more opponent that I am going to take down. I am going to take down the entire Celestial Realm if they are all like you."

While they were talking, She Weilun was secretly using his own vital energies to heal his internal injuries at a rapid pace as he thought, "These lowly celestials. They did not even know that a superior celestial is able to treat their own injuries. I have already reached the Divine Stage of the Golden Body. I am careless just now but once I have treated my injuries, I will teach them a lesson that they will never forget!"

So he laughed, "Beauty, you must be joking. You have no idea how many powerful celestials there are in the entire Celestial Realm. There are the

seven most powerful Ancient Celestials and each one of them can move entire mountains...”

Before he could finish, Yixian had flashed her Heavenly Earth Sword and a beaming sword energy had rippled through She Weilun, causing him to fly backward and breaking several of his vital energies channels!

She Weilun coughed out more blood as his eyes began to stare blankly!

He had seen the sword energy but he was still unable to dodge it. At the last moment, he could feel a powerful energy dissipating all his martial force and even his protective divine skill offered no defense against her sword energy!

Ever since he had mastered the Golden Body, sword energies attacks were just a nuisance to him and were not something to be feared. But today, he had sensed a powerful energy attack that was beyond his comprehension and it was similar to the martial force of the Ancient Celestials!

“No,” he thought. “It was more powerful than any force that he had known. Could it be the Universal Force?!”

He tried to look at the sword that Yixian had just flashed to him but she had already kept the sword into its scabbard in a blink of an eye!

He thought, “Who is this maiden? Why are her reflexes and martial moves seemingly to be the Golden Celestial level? But her divine state seems to be only the Transverse Level? Her attacking speed is even more phenomenon than this Yi Ping...”

Yi Ping said, “Let him go, Xian’Er. He is already defeated.”

Yixian said quietly, “Ping’Er if we let him go, he will go on to harm more innocents with his sinister bullying. I believe that we have a divine mission in the Celestial Realm and that divine mission is to punish all the evil-doers. We are the balance that the Celestial Realm needs and that is the reason why destiny has arranged for us to ascend at the same time.”

Lie Qing nodded but she was smiling enchantingly, “But we should

exercise more mercies too or else the evil-doers do not have a chance to repent.”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly. It was because sometimes when Lie Qing said something, she would do the exact opposite. When he had first met her, she virtually broke all her promises to him not to use her Invincible Divine Force to drain her opponents’ internal strength. Like Lele, Lie Qing was totally unpredictable. The more enchanting her smiles were the more wily her schemes she had in mind!

He still could remember how vividly how Lie Qing had faked her own death in collaboration with Yunzi and how he was duped by Lie Qing!

So Yi Ping quickly said, “Since he has already lost to us, just let him go. If he doesn’t repent the next time then we can wait for the next time to deal with him...”

But Lie Qing smiled as she winked at She Weilun, “How about this? We let you pick between my Sister Xian’Er and myself. If you can defeat either one of us, we will let you go. How about that?”

She Weilun immediately smiled as he spat out the bad blood in his mouth. If it was a duel, then he still had the confident to win. After all, he still had many secret martial techniques that he had not used yet. But he was also caution that his opponents may be experts in sword energies techniques so he said, “I am injured and may not be able to hold up against sword energies. If the two of you agree not to use your swords, then I can consider accepting this challenge.”

Lie Qing said, “I am alright.”

She looked at Yixian who nodded at her so she said, “We have all agreed to your terms. So who shall you pick then?”

She Weilun immediately mustered his entire martial power with his Golden Thunder Force as a faint golden aura surrounded him!

Yi Ping turned pale immediately. He knew that She Weilun was trying to muster his martial power first before the confrontation and if he could complete the entire augment then Yixian or Lie Qing would find it

difficult to even break through his defenses!

So he quickly said, “Xian’Er, Qing’Er, let me challenge him instead. This is too dangerous.”

She Weilun laughed, “It is too late now. Even if the three of you join hands together, it is impossible for you to break my Golden Thunder Martial Force. Even a practitioner with a hundred and twenty years of martial power may not be able to do that, moreover the three of you are just lowly celestials who have not even reached the Crisis Level yet.”

Yixian was quite annoyed with his description of the lowly celestials that were used on them all the time. Even though she was a practitioner of the Emotionless Rhyme but there was only one way to be peaceful in her mind meditation again and that was to silence him so she said coldly, “Then let me be your first challenger then!”

She had immediately raised her fingers and attacked She Weilun!

Yi Ping shouted, “Xian’Er, no!”

Yixian said gently as she stepped forward gracefully, “Ping’Er, step aside.”

She Weilun smiled. Surrounded by his Golden Thunder Martial Force, it would not be easy for his opponent to strike him even if they were faster. Moreover, he was confident of his superior attack speed because he was a superior celestial while she was a lowly celestial!

But no sooner had he raised his palms, Yixian had already struck his palms with dozens of beautiful stabs. Each of her strikes was swift, precise and the impact that was delivered was also tremendous powerful!

They did not even exchange more than one hundred blows when She Weilun could feel that he was being afflicted by cold negative energies!

He was startled that his pure positive martial force, which was the anti-nemesis of negative energies, could not block her negative internal strength energies!

He gasped, “What skill is that?”

Yixian had displayed her Jade Icy Fingers to the tenth level! It was a level that she had attained just before she had become a celestial.

She answered softly, "Jade Icy Fingers Level Ten."

Just when She Weilun was about to step backward to muster his martial power again to purge out the cold energy pulses that were afflicting him, Yixian had appeared gracefully on him again and struck his palms with a thunderous impact with her fingers as she said gently, "This is my Jade Icy Fingers Level Eleven."

She Weilun was immediately flung backward as he coughed out several bouts of blood!

His internal injuries were not light!

He was totally bewildered as he tried to stand firmly on the ground, "How is it possible that a lowly celestial have such a strong internal strength?"

Two months ago when Yi Ping had passed on to her the essences of the Divine Dragon Pills that were in his body and saved her life, Yixian had a breakthrough in her Icy Heavenly Tears which propelled her martial level from the tenth to the eleventh! The tenth level was previously a difficult skill for her to use at short notice but now she could use it at ease. Needless to say, through her understandings of her Icy Heavenly Tears, her Divine Emerald Skill and Jade Icy Fingers had also increased from the tenth to the eleventh, doubling the martial power of both skills!

Yixian was a natural prodigy. If it was another person in the same situation as her, they may not be able to grasp the tenth or even the eleventh level of the Icy Heavenly Tears at all even with the aid of the Divine Dragon Pill.

But she had. That was why she was able to overcome her Divine Calamity with the tenth level of her Divine Emerald Skill and become a True Celestial. It was something that her past protégé mistresses had failed to.

Yi Ping sighed in relief. At first he was so worried that Yixian may come

to harm. It was because two months ago in the fight with Lian Longba, Yixian had sustained serious internal injuries and was overpowered by him.

But Yi Ping did not know that with Yixian present attainment and her martial level, her tenth level of Icy Heavenly Tears was a match for Lian Longba. Unfortunately, before the fight she had already sustained severe internal injuries and could not muster all her internal strength. Therefore the highest level she could forcefully muster was actually the ninth. The martial strength in difference between the ninth and the tenth was doubled, as did the tenth and eleventh!

That was why She Weilun was suddenly overpowered by Yixian when she had displayed the eleventh level Jade Icy Fingers even though he had successfully blocked all her strikes!

She Weilun immediately shouted aloud as he pointed at Lie Qing, "Hold! Wait! I pick the other maiden as my opponent!"

Lie Qing smiled enchantingly, "Oh yes?"

She had mustered her Invincible Divine Force as eight blue faint wisps surrounded her but the air around her had exploded thunderously as her martial display!

She Weilun was startled!

He had recognized the Invincible Divine Force as one of the top epitome skills in the Celestial Realm to exist. Seven blue wisps represented the depth of her Invincible Divine Force level and it was considered to be a superior martial force skill and was a difficult level to muster for the practitioner. But his seemingly enchanting innocuous maiden had displayed eight blue wisps!

He was panicky shouting, "No wait..."

But before he knew it, Lie Qing was already upon him as she struck him many times!

Lie Qing was not known for her speed attack or her swiftness movement skill but when she used her full martial force, she had virtually ripped

apart her opponent's defenses as though it was like paper!

She Weilun screamed aloud as Lie Qing sent him flying backward as she disabled his martial skills as she said, "I have been looking for someone who is strong enough to take my Invincible Divine Force for a long time. You must be real fortunate today."

She Weilun coughed out more blood as he immediately sealed off several of his accupoints to save as many of his vital meridian channels as possible. His eyes were red and teary.

He murmured, "How ruthless. Do you know that trying to disable my martial skills are crueler than death..."

Lie Qing interrupted coldly, "That is for the Stellar Heaven Fairy that you have ruined. If you still treasure your life, now scram!"

When She Weilun heard that she was actually letting him off, he immediately took off without hesitation!

Yi Ping sighed softly.

Lie Qing asked, "Why are you sympathizing with people that are your enemies?"

Yi Ping said, "There are no real enemies. I remember that Gongsun Jing and Qiu Wufeng are also my enemies in the past but they have now become my sworn brothers..."

Lie Qing laughed softly, "And you got betrayed by Zuo Tianyi!"

Yi Ping tried to change the topic by saying, "Qing'Er, I can see that you have gained another improvement in your Invincible Divine Skill. When can I spar with you?"

Lie Qing giggled shyly, "It is all thanks to your Divine Dragon Pill. If you are not afraid of getting killed by me, you can try. But now it is still not the time."

Yi Ping said, "The last time that I have lost to you is when you have mustered the sixth Invincible Divine Force. I think I can manage the seventh now..."

Lie Qing smiled gently, "You have no idea how fearsome the seventh is. Forget about it."

Yi Ping looked a little disappointed.

All of a sudden, Yixian said. "They are here."

Who were they?

Lingfeng, Lele, Youxue, Yunzi, Mei'Er, Yu'Er, Xingyue, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Universal Old Man had appeared in sight and from their tired eyes; they must have rushed here as soon as possible!

Lele quickly asked, "What happens? We have detected a malevolent air earlier."

Shen Xingyue scanned the surroundings keenly and said, "It seems that there is a fight."

Lingfeng asked gently, "Is everyone alright?"

Yu'Er and Mei'Er had already surrounded Yi Ping and were checking him for signs of injuries.

Yi Ping said, "We just saw She Weilun. He was here just now."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled, "Where is he now? We...we must flee..."

Yi Ping said, "No need. He has fled."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was even startled as she looked at him with admired eyes, "You...have defeated him?"

Yi Ping nodded but he quickly said, "Qing'Er and Xian'Er have a hand too. I didn't really do much actually."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was trembling lightly as she said, "Thank you again..."

Yi Ping was startled, "Why thanks me?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said, "Nothing..."

Youxue as sighing, "If this old man can run a little faster, we can

witness an exciting fight.”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “I am really an old man. How fast can I run?”

Youxue hummed coldly, “You are the one that have detected the malevolent air and yet you run so slow. This is frustrating. If something happens to Yi Ping, I will never forgive you!”

The Universal Old Man scratched his head and said, “But isn’t he alright now?”

All of a sudden, the Stellar Heaven Fairy said. “It is time for me to leave. My injuries have almost recovered. I bring nothing but troubles to your group. I am really grateful to meet all of you but I got to go now.”

Everyone was startled that the Stellar Heaven Fairy was leaving without prior notice.

Yi Ping stammered, “Maiden Shishi, where are you going? It may be dangerous for you to travel alone.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed as she took a longing glance at Yi Ping, “I will be alright. I have grown wiser during my time in the Celestial Realm. I will stay out of trouble and continued with my cultivation on my own...”

She had completely recovered from her internal injuries and that included her dead meridian channels which caused her internal strength to shrink to just a third of her original. However, Yi Ping had cleared and revived her channels at the same time with Lie Qing and Yixian. Her martial strength had not only been restored but had also improved!

She was obviously been very grateful to Yi Ping but now, she had suddenly declared that she was leaving?

Yi Ping looked at Yunzi, Youxue, Lingfeng and Lele as he asked, “I hope that someone here can persuade her to stay. It is still dangerous for a lone maiden in the wilderness. I have thought that this place was safe but She Weilun has managed to find us after all.”

Youxue said coldly, "She is a rival. Do you think I will ask a rival to stay?"

Yi Ping replied awkwardly, "She is a friend. You think too much..."

Lingfeng said coldly, "You may think of her as a friend but she may not think of you as a friend."

The Universal Old Man knew that the Heaviness was jealous and he was a little afraid of her wrath. So he quickly said, "I think I see some delicious fruits over there. Let me go and take a look first."

And no sooner had he finished speaking, he was gone!

Youxue cursed softly, "Now he can really run..."

Yunzi said quietly, "I really hope that Sister Shishi can stay with us."

Yu'Er and Mei'Er nodded too but they were afraid of the other sisters to say anything. Moreover they usually let their protégé mistress Yixian decided things for them.

Yi Ping turned to Yixian and Lie Qing, "Why do you think?"

Yixian smile gently, "Why don't you ask her to stay yourself instead of asking us?"

Yi Ping was stunned by her reply.

He was stammering, "I did ask but she has decided to leave..."

Lie Qing said, "Why don't you ask, you hope for her to stay instead of asking if she wants to stay?"

Yi Ping was stunned by Lie Qing's reply.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed softly and she had already taken a few steps but her steps were slow and deliberate.

Everyone except Yi Ping could tell that she did not want to leave.

But Yi Ping did not say anything because he was confused. If anyone was in his situation and had to face nine beautiful maidens that were all looking at him at the same time, they may be even be more confused than Yi Ping himself!

So the Stellar Heaven Fairy took another seven steps before she paused and said with her back facing everyone, "If Yi Ping is willing to let me stay I will be willing to stay..."

This time, Yi Ping did not hesitate anymore for she had spelt it so directly so he quickly said, "I am willing..."

But the Stellar Heaven Fairy quickly added, "...with Yi Ping forever..."

Yi Ping was stunned and the rest of the maidens were also caught off-guarded!

None of the maidens had expected the Stellar Heaven Fairy to be so bold!

Lie Qing saw that Yi Ping was dumbfounded so she teased him, "Ping'Er, you still has not picked a choice between Sister Xian'Er and I. Have you decided yet?"

Shen Xingyue was intrigued, "What is it? Can I know?"

Yixian looked at Lie Qing, "That is only a bait to lure the intruder out. Give Ping'Er a break..."

Lie Qing laughed enchantingly, "I am sure you did not joke about consummating with Ping'Er earlier..."

Yixian was startled. Even her Emotionless Rhythm did not protect her from developing slight flushes on her face this time!

Lele quickly asked, "No way! Sister Xian'Er won't say that!"

Lie Qing stroked her long hair as she laughed merrily, "Yes she did."

Youxue had turned slightly away because she too was flushing shyly when she recalled the night that she had lost her "chastity" to Yi Ping...

Yi Ping was wishing that there was a hole on the ground now so that he could jump in and covered himself!

Chapter 85: The Universal Old Man

Yi Ping was alone with the Universal Old Man and he was receiving guidance and teachings from him.

The Universal Old Man said to Yi Ping, "I have never seen anyone that can increase their state of divinity as quickly as you. That is amazing!"

Yi Ping said respectfully, "That's because protégé master you are a good teacher. The Ultrapowerful Force that you have taught me is really useful or else I won't be able to defeat She Weilun so easily. I have fought against Gu Tianle who is also using the same martial skill but your Ultrapowerful Force is several notches higher."

The Universal Old Man said, "That is because you are able to use it at a proper timing too."

He stroked his long white beard as he muttered, "There are seven stages of celestial divinity; Genesis, Enlighten, Emotion, Transverse, Seventh Sense, Crisis and Ascend...you are now in the Transverse state of divinity. I can't believe that you have started with the Enlighten level when you have come to the Celestial Realm but now you are already in the middle Transverse level in just two months. It is really amazing but also worrying."

Yi Ping was curious as he asked, "Protégé Master is something wrong?"

The Universal Old Man said, "Each state of divinity is actually twice as hard as the previous and also twice as dangerous. But you have actually skipped from the Enlighten level to the Transverse level in such a short time. You must know that from the Enlighten level to the Emotion level and to the Transverse, it will take at least more than a hundred years for even the most gifted practitioners. And most practitioners actually take more than five hundred years and are not usual for them to take almost a thousand year. If you practice the state of divinity too fast, you will miss creating a solid foundation and this may be detrimental to your future progression. You may even hit the wall sooner than you have expected and unable to progress further. So how can I not worry?"

Yi Ping was startled as he asked panicky, “Yixian is even more astonishing than me. She is now at the Seventh Sense level and that one more before she hit the Crisis level. In the past, she has progress too fast and suffered a lot because of that. In fact, her celestial level is even higher than Lele now. Protégé Master, you must help her too...”

The Universal Old Man said regretfully, “There is nothing I can do. Each to their own destinies. The fact that the Celestial Fairy and you are able to progress so fast is something that is also beyond my understandings. I really hope that this is a good thing. Normally a practitioner has to go through three different tiers in the same celestial level in order to advance to the next level. But the two of you are skipping so fast. Alas, I really don’t get it...maybe it those pills but those pills don’t really have that much of an effect to say the truth...”

Yi Ping said solemnly, “Let hope that this is a good thing.”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “Even though state of divinity cannot be advanced through divine pills but maybe the two of you have higher state of divinity but just need those divine pills for a breakthrough.”

Yi Ping said, “Let’s hope so.”

The Universal Old Man said, “Don’t worry too much.”

Yi Ping said, “Protégé Master, can you persuade them not to go to the Dominating Aura Clan? The Celestial Realm is vast and we have not even really explored the realm yet. I think that the top priority now is to find the next possible appearance of the mysterious Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation.”

The Universal Old Man clapped his hands once as he sighed, “That is my wish too. But the Heaveness is bent on destroying the Dominating Aura Clan. She refuses to search for the Stellar Sanctuary unless I aid her first.”

Yi Ping was also sighing, “There will be many powerful and dangerous opponents. I don’t really wish to fight anymore. Shishi has repeatedly warned everyone that Ximen Nanqing is in a totally different league than the others. Alas.”

The Universal Old Man said, “All the domain lords are not easy to deal. Some attained their present positions of power through their cunning, some through their dominating divine skills, some through their ruthlessness, some through their brilliance and all of them didn’t attain their positions because they are weak.”

Yi Ping was solemn, “Then this expedition will be extremely perilous. Protégé Master, what should we do now?”

The Universal Old Man replied, “What shall we do? I am even more afraid than you are!”

Yi Ping was startled, “Aren’t you one of the seven most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm and have the strength to move mountains...”

The Universal Old Man began to cough because he had suddenly choked, “My foot! That is only a metaphor. If I can really move mountains, I will be already in the Gods’ Realm! I am afraid because my Divine Wrath is coming soon. I really cannot risk hurting anyone or else I will bring forward my Divine Wrath before I am ready. I really have no confidence in my forthcoming Divine Wrath.”

Yi Ping tried to encourage him, “Surely there is some other way to survive it.”

The Universal Old Man looked at him, “There is a way and it is something that I have saved up for an emergency. But now it is all gone now.”

Yi Ping asked, “What happens?”

The Universal Old Man stared at him and muttered, “Compare to my last protégé disciple that looks like you, you are ten times stupider! No wonder all the other maidens are constantly frustrated by you. Now I truly know why. You have eaten my Negative Core Divine Pill and you are asking why?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “I’m sorry...”

The Universal Old Man sighed, “Never mind. It is all in the past now.

Now we need to look forward. But first, I got something important to do. Good bye for now.”

Yi Ping was startled, “Protégé Master, don’t we have a martial instruction today? Where are you going?”

The Universal Old Man laughed jovially, “I think I have better take you along or the Heaveness will surely blame me when she sees you alone. Follow me then!”

Yi Ping nodded and was really curious.

So he began to follow the Universal Old Man who was walking very rapidly as though he was in a great hurry.

After a while because the walk was too quiet so Yi Ping asked, “Protégé Master, why is that I am not allowed to call Lingfeng as the Heaveness but you can? I don’t see her developing any allergy when you call her the Heaveness?”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “Maybe that is because I have been calling her the Heaveness for a long time so she is used to it. But for you to call her the Heaveness, maybe she has an aversion to you!”

Yi Ping groaned. It was because he did not think that was the truth.

But the Universal Old Man was laughing jovially, “It seems that you are not so stupid after all. But you need to be a little smarter in the affairs of the heart. It is not something that outsiders can help you. Good luck!”

Yi Ping did not really understand so he asked, “Where are we going? Are we reaching yet?”

The Universal Old Man said solemnly, “Be very quiet. They have really sharp ears.”

Yi Ping curiosity was piqued as he asked, “They?”

The Universal Old Man smiled, “Let me teach you a trick or two in the future so that you won’t be discovered.”

All of a sudden, he said proudly. “We have reached.”

Yi Ping saw a beautiful creek that was flowing between the mountain rocks and it was flowing downward like a mini-waterfall.

But still, Yi Ping could see no one else as he asked, "Why are we here?"

But barely had he said it aloud, the Universal Old Man pulled him aside and whispered solemnly, "Be very still and quiet. Don't speak aloud from this point onward. Just follow me."

Yi Ping followed the Universal Old Man down a small trail facing a rocky ledge.

Then the Universal Old Man smiled and he whispered to Yi Ping, "Follow my lead and prone on the ground."

Yi Ping did as he was told as he eyes the Universal Old Man curiously, "What is Protégé Master doing?"

The Universal Old Man was suddenly smiling happily as he looked across the rocky ledges. He whispered to Yi Ping, "What are you waiting? Come and take a look too!"

Yi Ping was completely bewildered but was curious at the same too. But no sooner had he looked over rocky ledges, he was stunned!

It was because he was overlooking a crystal clear small lake and he could see ten beautiful maidens frolicking in the lake!

Even though they were very far away but with Yi Ping's keen eyesight, he could see Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue, Xiao Youxue and the others.

Yixian was the most eye-catching because her graceful demeanor and gentle demeanor was the most captivating.

But the rest of the maidens were no less than captivating!

Xiao Youxue was very mesmerizing, Lie Qing was enchanting, Lingfeng was alluring, and every one of the maidens was beautiful in their own extraordinary ways!

There was a tickle of blood from Yi Ping's nose!

The Universal Old Man laughed softly, “You seem to be enjoying it more than I.”

Yi Ping immediately protested but he was stammering, “I...I...”

The Universal Old Man smiled jovially, “Don’t worry. At this distance and with the running streams that are around us, even if they have exceptional hearings they won’t be able to know we are watching them. I know all the blind spots of the Heavenness, how far she can see and hear. Just enjoy the view.”

Yi Ping was flustered, “Protégé Master, this is not right. Let’s leave immediately. We...we are peeking and that is wrong...”

The Universal Old Man laughed softly, “But you have already peeked. If you do not tell, I do not tell, there are no third, fourth, fifth people around, who will know?”

Yi Ping said solemnly, “This is not about others knowing or not knowing. It is about doing the right thing...”

The Universal Old Man had a sudden thought before he patted Yi Ping hard, “My protégé, do you know that I am doing it for your own good? This is part of your martial training!”

Yi Ping asked, “For my own good? For my martial training? I don’t see any connection...”

The Universal Old Man interrupted him as he tried to sound righteous, “Haha! That is when you are wrong. In the Celestial Realm if you want to survive, you must train your focus, eyesight and willpower! That’s right. Willpower! I am training your willpower now. Look at you, with a little temptation, you start to nosebleed already. If your willpower is weak, how are you going to defeat opponents that are stronger than you?”

Yi Ping was startled as he sighed, “I have accidentally learnt the Absolute Spirits Intricacy Skill. But somehow, whenever I am with them I will still feel fluster. It seems that I do need to train my willpower further...”

The Universal Old Man secretly thought, “That is shyness, idiot! But I

am not going to tell you or else I will be in trouble...”

So he said, “Do you know why I can become one of the seven most powerful celestials?”

Yi Ping shook his head but he was now respectful for he felt that the Universal Old Man was trying to enlighten him so that he could become better, “Please enlighten me!”

The Universal Old Man whispered, “In the past, I sneak on the Heaveness all the time. I didn’t succeed at first but eventually, I have become very good in it. As I have mentioned earlier, I know all the Heaveness weakness and blind spots. If you can sneak up to the Heaveness without her knowing, then you are definitely on the right track to become a highly attained celestial!”

Yi Ping was impressed, “Is that why you are always with the Heaveness?”

The Universal Old Man laughed jovially, “That’s right! You are smarter now! So today lesson is to train your focus and willpower as well as teach you a trick or two about stealth. Got it?”

Yi Ping lowered his head as he bowed, “Protégé Master, I have wronged you! You have my interest at heart! From now on, I will practice diligently!”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “That is my good protégé! When you are as good as me, then you will become one of the top celestials in the Celestial Realm...”

Yi Ping said, “Protégé Master there is something that I must tell you...”

The Universal Old Man interrupted with a smile, “You can wait for later. There isn’t much time to lose. We have already waste plenty of time talking...”

But suddenly Yi Ping said, “Protégé Master, why is that I can count only seven...Xian’Er, Xingyue and Lingfeng isn’t there anymore?”

The Universal Old Man turned pale immediately, “Oh no! We must

evacuate immediately...”

“Where do you think you are going?”

Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man turned pale immediately for they had recognized Lingfeng’s voice!

They looked up immediately and saw that Ji Lingfeng, Shui Yixian and Shen Xingyue were looking coldly at them!

If Yi Ping did not look up, it would be better but when he looked up and saw that they were being wrapped in their makeshift dress around them and were just covering their bodice, he had turned completely red!

The Universal Old Man was startled as he muttered, “That is not possible. I did everything right...”

Lingfeng said coldly, “The two of you, what do you think you are doing?”

Yixian was quiet as she asked shyly, “Ping’Er, can you explain yourself?”

Shen Xingyue was looking at Yi Ping with numbed shock, “We have thought it may be an enemy but it is the two of you. You are peeping at us?”

Yi Ping quickly said, “Protégé Master says that...”

The Universal Old Man quickly interrupted, “My eyesight is failing and Ping’Er offered to help me improve my eyesight. I have never expected that my good protégé is such a young man!”

He quickly patted Yi Ping on his back hard when he noticed that he was trying to interrupt him, “This is wrong! If I know that he would do this, I would never have followed him! Let’s forgive him for he is young after all. I am sure he will repent and won’t do it again. Am I right, my good protégé?”

Yi Ping sighed as he nodded, “I...I repent...”

The Universal Old Man laughed but he was soon very solemn, “That... that is my good protégé. You must know that emotions are detrimental to our future progressions. We are celestials now and should cultivate the Way. There are many temptations along. We ought to maintain the

righteousness in our heart and seek enlightenment in whatever we can. You still have much to learn but I have full confidence in you.”

Yi Ping looked at the Universal Old Man with a shocked expression!

But he quickly thought, “Maybe it is part of my training. If the Universal Old Man is alone then he won’t be discovered. Because he is with me, he is discovered. I should therefore shoulder the blame for the failure of this training...”

The Universal Old Man quickly asked, “How did you discover this rascal?”

Yi Ping was startled as he thought, “Did my Protégé Master just call me a rascal?”

Yixian smiled, “I have been training my hearing in the snowstorm in the Heavenly Mountains. Now that I have reached the Celestial Level of the Seventh Sense, all my senses are further amplified. I can hear even a pin dropping on the soft grass. At this range, it isn’t surprising to know if someone is in the vicinity.”

The Universal Old Man was startled as he secretly thought, “She could detect an intruder from this far away? Her hearing is even sharper than some of the Ancient Celestials that I know. Next time, I must stay further away.”

He turned to ask the Heaveness, “How did you find him?”

He was exceptionally curious. It was because he was sure that the Heaveness could not possibly know that they were peeping from here!

Lingfeng sighed softly, “I sneeze because someone mentions my name and...”

She looked at Yi Ping quietly who was looking ashamed of himself and he was extremely awkward. So she simply smiled and did not continue.

The Universal Old Man was stunned as he thought, “I really forget that the Heaveness is sensitive to Yi Ping mentioning her name even though he has mentioned to me. Alas, I am so careless. Next time, no...there

won't be a next time. I won't take him with me anymore.”

He turned to ask Shen Xingyue, “How did you find us then?”

Shen Xingyue was smiling gently and her golden eyes were beaming but she said nothing.

All of a sudden, Yi Ping pointed and said aloud in shock. “Xingyue, your eyes! It is golden!”

Shen Xingyue smiled gently, “That is right! I am now a True Celestial! I have reached the Ascend Level now. I have only discovered this morning when I have fully recovered from my injuries and was trying to clear all my channels.”

Yi Ping was really very happy for her and he quickly said, “This is not easy. Congratulations! I still have a long way before I can become a true celestial practitioner.”

The Universal Old Man clapped his hands, “That is right! Just before the transmigration, the eyes of the celestial practitioner will turn from gray to gold and yours has been gray. But you have ascended prematurely and that may explain why your eyes did not turn golden until now. That is a good thing! Now that you are a True Celestial, your physical limitations are even greater than before...”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly for this time he knew what the Universal Old Man was about to say to him, “That is why she too, is able to notice our prying eyes...”

Shen Xingyue giggled softly, “Then you are very wrong!”

Yi Ping was startled, “Why so?”

She pointed to the other direction and this time, Yi Ping saw that the other seven maidens were also here as she said, “All of us knows that you are here as well.”

Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man were startled!

The Universal Old Man asked, “That is impossible! This distance is already so far!”

Lele swung her long black scythe into the ground with a thunderous impact as she looked at the Universal Old Man, "We have all heard you."

The Universal Old Man was stunned, "Heard us? That is impossible..."

Dugu Yunzi sighed, "There are many creeks and ravines in these mountains. Your voices are echoed and carried down to us. Now you got it?"

The Universal Old Man was stunned as he stammered, "That is, that is..."

In the past, he was alone and had no one to talk with. That was why he was never been discovered by the Heavenness.

Shen Xingyue smiled, "Now you get it?"

What else could the Universal Old Man do except to smile bitterly!

Lingfeng said coldly, "Old man, today we have a score to settle and you have a lot of explaining to do."

Mei'Er said, "What a lousy Protégé Master. It is obviously you that is trying to mislead our Master and yet you are trying to make him the scapegoat."

Yu'Er said coldly, "That's right!"

Lie Qing pulled Yi Ping as she chuckled softly, "Ping'Er, let's us go now."

Yi Ping asked, "Where to?"

Lie Qing winked at him, "We having a bath below. Come and join us..."

Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man were suddenly coughing out for breathe for they had almost choked when they had heard that!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled sweetly, "I don't mind for Yi Ping to join us but this old man is a no, no for me."

Xiao Youxue was already standing beside Lingfeng and they were being surrounded by a deadly cold demeanor as they stared at the Universal Old Man!

The Universal Old Man took a step back, "No wait. Don't force me to

fight back. I am having my tribulation soon...”

Lingfeng said coldly, “You can have your retribution first!”

Chapter 86: The Dominating Aura Clan

The walled city of the Dominating Aura Clan was situated between scenic mountains and lush greeneries. The city itself was situated on the highest peak of these mountain ranges.

Yi Ping was traveling with the Universal Old Man and the ten maidens.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quietly, "Soon, we will reach the place. There is still time to turn back."

Yi Ping nodded but there was no indication that he would back off now.

All of a sudden, Yi Ping saw something far away and was immediately appalled at what he had seen. There were hundreds of slaves being forced into heavy labor as they pulled heavy blocks of limestone and granite. The slaves were being whipped into submission and quite a few had even crumbled on the ground right in front of his eyes!

Immediately, Shen Xingyue said unhappily. "Let's go and check it out."

Yi Ping nodded and they hurried their paces!

When the guards saw them from afar, they were startled and they were just standing there holding their whips. Even the slaves stopped their work as they stared in awe of them.

When they saw Yi Ping, they saw a dashing young man in white with a righteous air around him and on his back, were two sheathed swords. To evil-doers, he was extremely intimidating for he was like a bright sun that disintegrated the darkness. To the people in need, he was like a hero that had suddenly descended and instantly inspired hope to everyone!

Behind him, walked an old man with a long white beard. Anyone that saw him would immediately thought of him as wise old man. The Universal Old Man was an Ancient Celestial and one of the first to be in the Celestial Realm. His attainment was high enough that he was able to disguise himself as a mortal and there was no tell-tale sign that he was a celestial practitioner. The only thing that marred his sagely look was his two black eyes and face that seemed to be scratched by something.

What was even more astonishing was the extraordinary beautiful sight of the ten maidens that were in view!

Yu'Er the Jade Sword Fairy and Mei'Er the Beautiful Sword Fairy were whistling beautiful tunes, Yunzi and Youxue were laughing captivatingly, the Stellar Heaven Fairy was looking sweetly as she walked with Yixian, Lie Qing and Lele at the same time, Lingfeng was looking at her surroundings keenly with her alluring as though her eyes could speak while Shen Xingyue was walking elegantly with her long red flowing dress in the cool winds.

What an extraordinary sight! It was like the immortal fairies had suddenly decided to descend upon the Celestial Realm!

When the guards and the slaves saw them, they were completely dumbfounded and everyone became immobilized on the spot!

Before they could even react, Yi Ping was already shouting. "I am Yi Ping. Let them all go!"

When he shouted, there was a burst of martial shockwave that frightened the guards but at the same time, the hearts of the slaves saw hope and they were cheering loudly as they could sense excitement today that this young hero was going to liberate them today!

There were just two dozen guards armed with whips and poles. All of them were mortals except for the Captain of the Guard who was a practicing celestial. He was easy to spot for he had white hair and crimson eyes, characteristics of a dark celestial practitioner.

His men were all looking at him for instructions but the usual battle-hardened veteran Captain of the Guard was trembling!

It was because other than the Heaviness and the Universal Old Man who had normal eyes, the newly arrival intruders were all practicing celestials! In fact in the group there were two True Celestials, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Fiery Phoenix (Shen Xingyue).

The Captain of the Guard had recognized the Stellar Heaven Fairy immediately. There was a warrant and a bounty for her by the

Dominating Aura Clan for betraying the clan. She Weilun, the right-hand man Ximen Nanqing who was also their protégé master came back with a light injury warning one day announcing her betrayal and the death of Lian Longba.

Ximen Nanqing was furious. Since then, the Dominating Aura Clan had sent many super fighters to comb the surrounding mountains for her whereabouts but was futile.

But of course that was not the only reason. She Weilun had reported with due diligence that the group that the Stellar Heaven Fairy was with, possesses several divine swords and metallic weapons.

Ximen Nanqing was immediately intrigued. It was because metals were a scarcity in the Celestial Realm. The few metallic weapons and divine weapons that were in the Celestial Realm were mostly in the hands of the most powerful celestials and celestial clans!

Therefore he ordered half of his most powerful fighters to search the mountains for their whereabouts but to no futility. Finally two months later, She Weilun returned from the mountains in a critical condition. Before he could find the Stellar Heaven Fairy, he was injured by Yi Ping, Yixian and Lie Qing!

And he brought back the name of the only attacker that he could remember; his name was Yi Ping!

The Captain of the Guards remembered this account all too well. And this young man who had come from nowhere had just announced his name to be Yi Ping!

That was the reason why he was trembling!

He had never expected these renegade celestials to be so bold and had come to the Dominating Aura Clan. Did they all have a death wish? But now he knew that if he took them headlong, the one having a death wish was himself.

Yi Ping shouted again, "Freed them all or I won't be polite anymore!"

As Yi Ping shouted, the ground was reverberating with the aftershocks

of his martial shouts!

The Captain of the Guards was totally freaked out and he had bolted immediately without saying a single word!

When his men saw that their captain had fled, they too took flight after him!

Even Yi Ping himself was surprised that his martial shout had improved. He thought, "Is it because I have reached the Transverse level that my martial shout is now further amplified? I have only thought that the Transverse Level is an enhancement of the speed only. This is a surprising find."

The Universal Old Man knew what he was thinking so he said, "Every practitioner will go through a different experience at the same celestial level. It all depends on the type of skills that the practitioner is most apt with and his natural affinity."

Yi Ping nodded and asked curiously, "There are so many mortals in the Celestial Realm?"

The Universal Old Man explained, "There are a lot more mortals than celestials than you think here. They are the descendants of celestial practitioners in the past. But they are a pitiful lot. They are oppressed by the celestials here and used for manual work. The Dark Celestials also feast on their blood and hearts. Even if they can have a hope of becoming an aspiring celestial, they are quickly converted to the dark side. Very few of them ever make it to become a Golden Celestial. Even then, those Golden Celestials that are here have mostly converted to the dark side too, like Ximen Nanqing and She Weilun. Many Golden Celestials are actually forced to join them. The Celestial Realm is a ruthless place for the renegade celestials and the clanless celestials."

Yi Ping secretly looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy who shifted uncomfortably.

He was soon interrupted by the loud cheering slaves as they approached Yi Ping hesitatingly. It was not because they had feared Yi Ping but because they were too much in awe of him and his companions!

Yi Ping smiled and said gently to them, "You may go now. You are all freed men now. From now on, no one will oppress you anymore."

Lingfeng smiled at them, "That's right."

A thin old man who seemed to be in his sixties boldly stepped forward as he said weakly, "Thank you...hero..."

This thin old man was half-naked and his body was covered with blood, fresh from the lashing of the whips.

All the men that were behind the old man were all shouting aloud, "Thank you hero!" And some of them had even fallen on their knees to give the highest honor to Yi Ping and his group!

Yi Ping saw that the thin old man was about to bow so he panicky stepped forward, saying compassionately to him, "That's alright. You are now all free."

The old man was moved to tears. He had dreamt of freedom every single day but saw it as an impossible dream. Even if he was free for just an hour, he would be glad to give up his life for it!

He coughed a few times before he said weakly, "This place is the domain of the despicable Ximen Nanqing. Even we are freed for just a while, we are happy. Young Hero, you must flee this place and escape to the mountains. You are not Ximen Nanqing's match. In the past, there are many celestials that had come to challenge him but none of them had survived. We really thank you..."

When Yi Ping saw the state of the old man in this close up view, he was moved to anger and he looked at the gathering crowd who were all in a similar state of misery. "I will surely free all of you today. I am going to the Dominating Aura Clan now and seek justice for everyone."

The old man was trembling as he could hardly believe his ears!

Lingfeng hummed coldly, "I thought that a few days someone didn't want to come here and now he wants to be a hero."

Yu'Er and Mei'Er were giggling now. They knew that Lingfeng was

about to tease Yi Ping again and they were always happy to see their master awkward expression.

Yi Ping rubbed his nose and said, “My Heavenness. I have already changed my mind!”

Lingfeng trembled slightly and she quickly said, “Stop! Stop calling my...”

Yi Ping said, “Heavenness, Heavenness, Heavenness!”

Lingfeng was annoyed but she quickly said, “I surrender! You...I won’t tease you anymore, alright? So stop calling my name!”

Yi Ping was grinning much to the disappointment of Yu’Er and Mei”Er.

The Universal Old Man was startled as he dropped a whisper to Yi Ping, “When did you become so smart?”

All of a sudden, a middle-age man from the crowd was frantically saying, “Could he be the Son of Heaven? Young hero, can you unsheathe the swords from behind your back?”

Yi Ping was curious and with a quick flickering of movement, there were two bright halos as he held the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix in both hands!

The newly freed men were all startled as they began to hold their breath as they behold the beaming lights of the two divine swords.

The thin old man had suddenly caught of Yi Ping’s hand as he trembled nonstop, “Young Hero, you are indeed the Son of Heaven. Are you an Immortal from the Gods’ Realm that is here to be our savior?”

Yi Ping could only smile weakly, “Unfortunately I am not.”

Another old man had stepped forward, “The prophecy can’t be wrong. The Ancient Celestials say that a young hero with a pair of divine swords will one day appear to save us from the Dark Celestials. You are the one, no doubt!”

Yi Ping quickly protested, “Unfortunately I am not...”

But the crowd refused to heed his explanations and was now rushing forward to touch him.

“Maybe young hero, you didn’t know your true destiny yet.”

“What are the odds of a person with two divine swords?”

“The Immortal Being doesn’t want anyone to know his true identity yet because it is not the time...”

“It is said that when the Immortal Being comes, he will be accompanied by heavenly maidens...”

Yi Ping was shouting frantically, “Stop, wait. Hold...I am not.” But he dared not use his martial shout because he was afraid of hurting them.

Lingfeng secretly stole a glance at the Universal Old Man who was also looking at her. She began to sigh softly...

It was because many years ago, they had made up a prophecy in the Celestial Realm about an Immortal Being that could be the savior of the people. The powerful Celestials were oppressing the people and they had divided the Celestial Realm into thousands of domains and fiefdoms. So they invented a prophecy to give a hope to the people so that they could have the courage and hope to carry on living in their darkness hour.

That prophecy caught on like wildfire and there were even some Celestials that actually repented from their wicked ways because they feared the retributions of the Immortal Being.

But that was a long time ago while the Heavens were still in the Celestial Realm and the prophecy was now largely forgotten. But today, it was revived again!

Before Yi Ping knew what was happening, he was being ushered by hundreds of people!

Yi Ping could not smile bitterly. It was because he did not want to shatter the faith of these people. He could only say to them, “I will do my best. I come here to challenge Ximen Nanqing but I really have no confidence at all. If you follow me, you may all be captured again or killed.

It is better that you run to the mountains first.”

The thin old man said tearfully, “Great Hero, I am already so old. Moreover, even if I am young and can hide in the mountains, Ximen Nanqing’s men will still be able to find me. The fates that they deal to escape slaves cannot be imagined. I will rather take my chance with you. I am content enough to have a day of freedom and till unto death, I will fight for my freedom.”

When Lele had heard that, she had burst into tears. Among all the maidens even though it appeared that she was the most difficult to get along with and the most incomprehension to the feelings of others, it was actually a front for her to disguise her true feelings. She was easiest the compassionate and emotional among all the maidens.

Yunzi and Lie Qing were immediately at Lele’s side as they tried to comfort her.

Almost all the men that were also shouting, “Unto death we will follow you! Unto death we will follow you!”

Yi Ping muttered, “All of you...I will do my best...”

Yixian said gently to Yi Ping, “Ping’Er, you are not fighting alone.”

Xiao Youxue said shyly, “That’s right.”

Just when Yi Ping was about to say something, Lingfeng said. “Something isn’t right! Come!”

Indeed, they had all sensed a powerful malevolent air that came from the direction of the city!

Yi Ping turned and said to the crowd, “Wait here!”

Before the crowd could react, Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and the ten maidens were gone in a few blinks of an eye. Their swiftness movement skills were extraordinary and left the crowd gasping in astonishment!

When Yi Ping and his group arrived at the walled city of the Dominating Aura Clan, they were startled to see the dead bodies of the

protégés of the Dominating Aura Clan on the city walls, on the ground, at the drawbridge, at the iron gates and everywhere!

Yi Ping was appalled at the sight. Most were mortals but there were at least a dozen dark celestial practitioners and two Golden Celestials.

Yixian said, "They are killed by claws, swords, palm skill, finger skills and many more. Many of them are killed by a single fatal blow."

Lie Qing was solemn, "The killing malevolent air is just in front of us on the other side of the gate. It seems that these people are all killed swiftly but it is not a surprise attack. It is obviously that they saw their assailants but couldn't put up a fight. Only the celestial practitioners did slightly better."

Shen Xingyue said wryly, "It seems that someone else did the job for us. I was wondering how we are going to make our dramatic entrance but it seems that it saves us the trouble now!"

Yi Ping was solemn as he said, "Let's go in."

As Yi Ping walked through the gate, he was immediately greeted by a strong dominating aura and an equally powerful malevolent air!

The entrance of the gate was equally appalling and there were many dead.

Yi Ping had recognized She Weilun immediately and he was standing beside a middle-aged muscular man with black and white beard. The dominating aura had come from him. Without any doubt, only Ximen Nanqing could possess a dominating aura like this. Around him were two other celestial practitioners with golden eyes but they were all coughing weakly. It seemed that their injuries were not light.

This was confirmed by the Stellar Heaven Fairy as she whispered to Yi Ping, "He is Ximen Nanqing. The other two are his clan division leaders. It seems that he has some unwanted visitors today."

Yi Ping looked the other way and saw five men in a priestly garb. The killing malevolent air had come from them!

A handsome man that was standing in the middle was waving a fan and had a sword by his side. When he saw Yi Ping and his group, he said coldly, "So Master Ximen Nanqing, is that your reinforcements? A young man, an old man and ten maidens?"

Ximen Nanqing hummed coldly, "They are not my men. In fact, one of them is a traitor."

When She Weilun saw the Universal Old Man and Yi Ping, he was immediately startled and murmured with the Great Whispering Skill so that none could hear them, "That old man was the one that hurt me. Don't be fooled by his innocuous appearances. He is in fact an Ancient Celestial. He may be the real leader of this group."

Ximen Nanqing immediately used the Great Whispering Skill and said, "Good. I am a little afraid that these newcomers may not be their match. We can pull a little ruse and let them fight among themselves first then we can wipe them all out in a single swoop."

They did not know that Lingfeng was carefully reading their lips and knew their exchanges. Ever since she had regained her memories as the Heaviness, she had remembered many skills that she used to know and one of the skills was the Silent Reading Skill.

The handsome man took a look at Yi Ping and his group with interest and noticed the number of metallic weapons that they had as he said to Ximen Nanqing, "Oh? They are not on your side?"

At the same time, Yi Ping had also noticed that these five men all had golden eyes. What was startling was that the other four men were much older than the handsome young man and looked more formidable than him yet they seemed to be following his lead.

The handsome young man looked intently at Yi Ping and asked, "So why are you here if you are not an ally of the Dominating Aura Clan? You seem to be the leader of this group. Or is it one of the two maidens that are behind you that is actually the real leader?"

Yi Ping was clenching his fists. He was upset when he saw the loss of so many lives even though they were his enemies. He replied coldly, "I am

indeed the leader.”

The handsome young man was looking intently at Shen Xingyue and the Stellar Heaven Fairy, refusing to believe him. It was because it was obviously that these two maidens had the superior elevated divinity and the leadership of any group naturally belonged to the strongest.

But all of a sudden, the handsome young man stopped waving his silver fan and he was looking at Shen Xingyue, “It is you?”

Shen Xingyue was startled as she too stepped forward. She began to encircle the young handsome man rapidly to identify him before she gasped, “It is you! You have become so ruthless? Why are you here?”

The handsome young man answered coolly, “That is my question as well. So you have managed to ascend. That is a good thing. So why are you here? I have almost forgotten about you. Have you forgotten who you really are?”

Shen Xingyue hummed coldly, “It seemed that I am not the only ones that you have forgotten.”

She stole a glance at Yu’Er and Mei’Er.

When the handsome young man saw them, he immediately staggered backward while muttering. “That’s impossible. It is not real. They can’t be...”

Ximen Nanqing immediately noticed his expressions and he too, was looking at Yu’Er and Mei’Er who were identical twins. But there was nothing fearsome about them. So why was he so startled?

Shen Xingyue said coldly, “So why don’t you tell me first?”

Instead of replying Shen Xingyue, the handsome young man looked at Yi Ping asked, “You are married to this man?”

For no reason, Yi Ping was suddenly overwhelmed with jealousy. He tried to calm himself with the Absolute Spirits Intricacy as he thought, “They know each other, they know each other...”

He had to admit that this young handsome man was the most

charismatic man that he had ever met. He had already noticed that even Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Yunzi, Youxue and the other maidens seemed to be dazzled by his beautiful looks!

Shen Xingyue replied, "That's none of your business, really."

The handsome young man appraised Yi Ping again as he asked, "What is your name?"

Yi Ping said coldly, "I don't make friends with killers..."

All of a sudden, the handsome young man tumbled forward and attacked Yi Ping with his fingers as he said, "I teach you for being rude to a superior celestial!"

The speed of his attack was like lightning but Yi Ping was able to block the attack with his hands. But no sooner had he blocked the attack, the handsome young man switched his stance and rained dozens of tremendous attacks in a blink of an eye upon Yi Ping as he smirked, "Not bad. But how about this?"

Yi Ping was startled as he too, returned dozens of blows with lightning reflexes in a blink of an eye!

Their clashes were so mighty that the windforce that was generated from their attacks exploded with thunderously impact all around them as even the stone slabs below them broke under their martial force!

Shen Xingyue could only call out helplessly, "No wait! Don't attack Yi Ping!"

In five blinks of an eye, Yi Ping and the handsome young man had exchanged more than one hundred tremendous blows with each other! But while Yi Ping had broken into sweat, the handsome young man was still looking calm.

Yi Ping was startled and his hands were trembling. He had already used all his martial strength against this handsome young man. He had not used one stroke but one hundred full strength strokes. The fatigue and exhaustion that he was possibly facing could not be imagined. He had sustained himself through the Absolute Spirits and the Divine Revelation!

Even the handsome young man was somewhat surprised by Yi Ping's resilient but he had no wish to be dragged by a prolong fight because he still had one more enemy to fight. So he increased his martial power all of a sudden and displayed the Denunciation Force.

When Yi Ping sensed that his opponent had suddenly retracted his attacks, he knew that a powerful martial force was forthcoming and he raised his martial power to execute the Asper Horizon Hand in a nick of time!

The air around them exploded with a thunderous force and Yi Ping was thrown off the ground and flung to the back! He was quickly caught by Yixian, Lele and Youxue!

But the handsome young man was still standing on the same spot and was casually dusting off the dust from his priestly garb. All these took place in less than ten blinks of an eye!

He was smiling casually, "It is just a small lesson for him."

Yi Ping forced himself to stand straight as he said coldly, "I have not lost yet."

The handsome young man smiled, "It appears so. You want to fight me again?"

He looked at the rest of the maidens who were all looking at him coldly and laughed softly, "Or, you are all thinking of fighting me at the same time? I don't mind at all."

Lele hummed coldly, "You will regret taking us at the same time."

The handsome young man replied, "Is that so?"

Lie Qing used her Great Whispering Skill on Lele, "Sister, he doesn't seem to have ill intention against us yet. We still have another enemy, remember? So calm down first."

Lele looked at Lie Qing who nodded silently at her as did Yixian.

Shen Xingyue had stepped forward, "That's enough. You still have not told me why you are here?"

The handsome young man said, "I have almost forgotten."

So he said aloud, "So Master Ximen Nanqing, have you decided already or not to swear your allegiance and to join the Holy Ascension Sect?"

Shen Xingyue was startled, "The Holy Ascension Sect? The Ascension Sect has become the Holy Ascension Sect?"

The handsome young man nodded, "We are now grouping all the known celestial clans together. You should join us. You are from our sect too. Have you forgotten who you are and your celestial oaths?"

Shen Xingyue was solemn as she said quietly, "My divine soul, my holy body belongs to the Ascension Sect and to the Ascension Supreme. I have never forgotten."

Yi Ping and the others were startled that this handsome young man was from the same sect as Shen Xingyue!

The handsome young man smiled, "Good."

Shen Xingyue asked, "Who is the current leader of the Holy Ascension Sect now?"

The handsome young man replied casually, "The Lord Supreme."

Shen Xingyue was startled as did Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man!

The Lord Supreme was the patriarch of the Ascension Sect and all the Ascendant Celestials regarded him as the founding patriarch of the Ascension Sect!

The Universal Old Man was muttering, "That old freak is not dead yet?"

Like the Universal Old Man and the Heaviness, the Lord Supreme was also an Ancient Celestial.

The handsome young man looked sharply at Ximen Nanqing, "So Master Ximen Nanqing, have you decided yet? Don't make me repeat myself again. I am not as patient as you think I am."

Ximen Nanqing laughed aloud, "If you want me to surrender, it is not impossible."

He pointed at Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy before saying, “I despise traitors in my ranks and they have killed my beloved protégé Lian Longba. If you can take revenge for me, then I will promise to submit to you with open arms. What do you say?”

The handsome young man smiled and said, “That sound like a good deal. What about your men that we have killed?”

Ximen Nanqing said, “I treat it as nothing has happened!”

The handsome young man waved his hands and smiled, “Excellent!”

He turned around and said coolly to Shen Xingyue, “Xingyue, come over here. By the holy decree of the Lord Supreme, all Ascendants are one. Betrayers to the sacred oath will be destroyed, soul and body for all eternity.”

Shen Xingyue was bleary eyes as she looked at Yi Ping and Yi Ping was also looking at her.

All the other maidens were also looking at Shen Xingyue with pleading eyes!

Yi Ping was trembling, “Xingyue, don’t go please. We may not lose. If the Holy Ascension Sect intends to separate us, I will rather fight them!”

Shen Xingyue said quietly, “I...the oath is binding. I don’t have a choice or any choice...”

Yunzi had covered her face with her hands and she was secretly crying. It was because she had gone through her experience before and had understood how she had felt!

Yi Ping had drawn his two divine swords and he was muttering, “I won’t let that happen. If I can defeat this despicable man here, then he cannot take you away.”

The instant that Yi Ping had drawn his divine swords, the resounding echoes began to ripple throughout as though his divine swords agreed with him and two small bright halos appeared on the tip of his divine swords!

Yi Ping was muttering, "You agree with me too? Good! This is a battle that we cannot afford to lose..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy and Lingfeng was gasping, "The Divine Harmony!"

The Heaveness was stupefied, "This is the harmony of the divine swords. Only a few can attain this awakening. I have never seen this before too and have only heard of it. Now Yi Ping has truly reached the divine state of 'One with the Sword'!"

The handsome young man said quietly, "There are two things that you have to remember today. Firstly, I am not a despicable man..."

Shen Xingyue continued for her, "Of course you are not a despicable man. You are a maiden. You can only be a despicable maiden and not a despicable man."

Yi Ping was stunned, "He is a...she?"

Lingfeng sighed softly, "You didn't notice at all? Have you ever seen such a beautiful man?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said, "And an extremely beautiful maiden too."

Shen Xingyue said, "Her celestial fraternity name is the Ascension Goddess. She is in the same ranking as the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess."

The Ascension Goddess drew her long sword and the echo of her divine sword reverberated and resounded even louder than Yi Ping's divine swords!

There was even a bright halo on the tip of her divine sword!

The Ascension Goddess said coolly, "And secondly, you are not the only one that has attained the Divine Harmony. Thirdly, I have a divine sword too and her name is the Despairing Heavenly Sword."

Even Ximen Nanqing was startled at her stunning display as he secretly thought, "She is the Ascension Goddess?! Just how high is her celestial attainment now?"

It was as though the Ascension Goddess could hear his thoughts that she had suddenly remarked, “Master Ximen Nanqing, do you want to know how your Dominating Force fare against me?”

Ximen Nanqing smiled bitterly but did not say anything.

At the same time, Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy had already drawn out her Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword as she said gently, “My swordplay may not be the best but I am not going to let Ping’Er fight you alone.”

Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress was stroking and arranging her long hair to and fro, “Alas, I really want to know if my Invincible Divine Force is now truly invincible.”

Ji Lingfeng the Heaveness was sighing softly, “Somehow I have this death wish as well...”

The Ascension Goddess laughed jovially, “Why don’t you all attack me at the same time?”

Chapter 87: The Ascension Goddess

The Ascension Goddess commanded, "Xingyue, come over my side."

Shen Xingyue pursed her lips lightly as she looked at Yi Ping.

Yi Ping was looking at her with pleading eyes as he muttered, "Xingyue..."

As Shen Xingyue looked into his eyes, all of a sudden she remembered something!

She turned and looked icily at the Ascension Goddess and said, "I refuse to."

The Ascension Goddess was somewhat startled as she said coldly, "Have you forget about your celestial oath?"

Shen Xingyue said coldly, "No, I didn't. But you are not the only Supreme Celestial in this place."

The four men in priestly garb were laughing at the same time, "If there are other Supreme Celestials from the Ascension Sect here, how come we do not know?"

The Ascension Goddess asked, "Explain?"

Shen Xingyue looked icily at them, "Do you acknowledge that I am now also a Supreme Celestial?"

The priest with a curly beard interrupted, "Not everyone can be Supreme Celestial. They are picked even before they are initiated into the Ascension Sect."

The other priest with a broad face smirked, "That's right. Mere claims are pointless."

But the Ascension Goddess said coolly, "That's right. She is a Supreme Celestial."

The four priests were startled, "She is a Supreme Celestial? How can it be?"

Even Yi Ping was startled as he thought, “Xingyue is a Supreme Celestial. I didn’t know about it...”

Shen Xingyue pointed towards Yu’Er and Mei’Er, “Earlier, you seem to have recognized them too from your startled expressions. Maybe there are still doubts in your heart but I am going to clear your doubts for you. You are not mistaken at all. They are the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis heaven Goddess.”

The Ascension Goddess and the four priests were startled. These two maidens were the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect?

The Supreme Celestials were highly attained celestials in the Ascension Sect. They were very mysterious and were rarely ever seen by the other Ascendants, preferring to cultivate their state of divinity alone.

It was because the Supreme Celestials were all Golden Celestials who had almost ascended or waiting to ascend but had chosen to linger in the lower realm. The reasons that the Supreme Celestials had chosen to linger was not because they could not forsake the lower realm but because they could not ascend!

They had taken a more arduous and more perilous divine practice that was a secret even in the Ascension Sect. Through occult divination, the few Ascendants that were chosen to be a Supreme Celestial were told that they could only ascend if they had a divine sword to aid them. That was their destiny.

But in order to transmigrate together with the divine swords and ascended together, they must first attain the Divine Harmony.

Needless to say, the Dark Enchantress, the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess were all ordained Supreme Celestials.

When the Ascension Goddess had just transmigration to the Celestial Realm, Shen Xingyue had just joined the Ascension Sect. She was given the Perpetual Darkness and was told that she could be a future Supreme Celestial once she had successfully cultivated as a Golden Celestial. As a Golden Celestial, she had the right to claim to be a Supreme Celestial!

By the time the Divine Descendant had struck, Shen Xingyue the Dark Enchantress was already a highly attained First Celestial. But when she tried to look for the White Sage to warn him, she was almost killed by the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddesses as she plunged into a deep ravine. Even though she had survived the fall but she had also lost her divine sword. This caused her state of divinity to remain almost in stasis for a thousand years! Without the Perpetual Darkness, even if she could reach the Ascend Level, she could not ascend; her path of practice was very different from the other celestial practitioners!

However a thousand years later, she chanced upon the Blue Heavens Divine Sword and the characteristics of this divine sword were almost similar to the Perpetual Darkness. However, it was in the hands of Zuo Tianyi the Protégé Leader of the Infinity Sword Clan. Divine Swords were rare enough but divine swords with similar characteristics were even rarer!

As she did not know the whereabouts of the Perpetual Darkness, she took possession of the Blue Heavens Divine Sword from Zuo Tianyi.

As for the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddesses, they were among the first Ascendants of the Ascension Sect and they were also some of the first celestials in the lower realm to be awakened. Their divine swords the Axis Heavens and the Eclipse Heavens, for reasons that were only known to them were sealed in a forbidden sanctuary. Because of that, they could not ascend and had to endure countless tribulations until they could find two suitable divine swords that were identical to the Axis Heavens and the Eclipse Heavens!

The Ascension Goddess looked at Yu'Er and Mei◆Er crimson eyes, scarcely believing that it was the true.

But she soon smiled, "My greetings to my protégé sisters then. Congratulations on obtaining your divine swords."

It was as though she could see through their scabbards and identified their divine swords that were sheathed within.

Yu'Er hummed coldly as she adjust her black velvet dress, "That is the

past now. I am now the Jade Sword Fairy and my divine sword is called the Harp Whisperer.”

Mei’Er said nonchalantly, “Like my sister, I am no longer any Axis Heaven Goddess. My fraternity name is Beautiful Sword Fairy and my divine sword is named the Lyrical Whisperer.”

The Ascension Goddess smiled, “No matter. Can I see your divine swords?”

Yu’Er said coldly, “Your malevolent air is too heavy and my divine sword reacts badly to evil. You are supposed to be a highly attained celestial yet you have killed so many today. Aren’t you afraid of getting your retributions and suffers during your tribulations?”

Mei’Er looked at Ascension Goddess and at the four priests, “You are all highly attained celestial. Are you going to throw away all your hard earned attainment just like that? Just because you want to dominate over the others?”

Yi Ping said solemnly, “You shouldn’t kill them. Is it worth it? There is a saying, it takes a thousand years to cultivate to a new state of divinity but it only takes a day to destroy all that you have achieved. It is never too late to repent.”

The Ascension Goddess appraised Yi Ping for a while before she broke into a slow smile, “I am your enemy and you are actually showing concern for your enemy? Isn’t this laudable?”

Yi Ping remained unmoved by her taunts, “This is not laudable. Surely a highly attained celestial like you will surely understand that evil will never triumph over good.”

The Ascension Goddess seemed to have softened the glare in her golden eyes as she gave an almost invisible soft sigh, “You don’t have to worry about me. These men that we have killed deserved their sorry fates. Their deaths are just a small retribution for them. My Purity Spirits Heart Intricacy is able to cleanse the taint of their impure spirits from us. So don’t you worry alright?”

She winked at Yi Ping.

Yi Ping caught her wink and he had noticed that many of the maidens were actually looking at him. With so many stares, he was stammering, "I...I not worrying...for you..."

The Ascension Goddess turned and said to Shen Xingyue, "So you are adamant to be in this group?"

Shen Xingyue said coolly, "Isn't this obvious?"

The Ascension Goddess smiled wryly, "This fight is inevitable, it seems. I have never expected that I would have made such a fruitful trip in this desolate place. This group really intrigues me. Three Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect, two Ancient Celestials and seven divine swords. This must be something unprecedented!"

Ximen Nanqing, She Weilun, the four priests and the two division clan leaders of the Dominating Aura Clan were startled when they heard her proclamations!

Ximen Nanqing and She Weilun looked at each other silently. There was another Ancient Celestial? This group possessed seven divine swords!?

The Ascension Goddess glanced at the Universal Old Man, saying. "You are not an ordinary old man for sure. You are an Ancient Celestial? When I unsheathe my divine sword, any ordinary mortal would have been injured by my sword energy already. But you didn't flinch at all."

The Universal Old Man pretended to cough as though he was afflicted by a sickness.

She glanced at Lingfeng and winked, "The same goes for you too. Am I unlucky or what to have encountered two Ancient Celestials?"

The four priests stared at the Universal Old Man and Lingfeng.

Ximen Nanqing and She Weilun had already known that the Universal Old Man was an Ancient Celestial. They were surprised that the alluring maiden that they had seen was also An Ancient Celestial! No wonder she

looked so confident and was not cowed by the martial display of the Ascension Goddess!

Lingfeng stole a glance at the Universal Old Man, “So what are you waiting for? She has already discovered your identity.”

The Universal Old Man smiled and pointed in the direction of Ximen Nanqing, “Someone has to watch over him right? That group looks like the perfectly sneaky type.”

Lingfeng knew that he was trying to conserve his martial power for his tribulations and for the Stellar Sanctuary. But when they were in trouble, he would surely intervene. So she nodded gently in approval.

But she shot a taunt at the Ascension Goddess, “So you are afraid now and is thinking of backing off now? Good, it is not a disgraceful thing to admit defeat.”

The four priests were alarmed and they quickly said, “Ascension Goddess, we are willing to lay our lives for you. There is no need for someone as esteem as you to take any unnecessary risks...”

The Ascension Goddess interrupted them gently, “The Dark Enchantress is a Supreme Celestial. The whole lot of you may not even be her match even if she is new to the Celestial Realm. Even among the Golden Celestials, there are different tiers. If I am to put a tier to her, then her attainment and martial skills are on the same class as me.”

She paused briefly before smiling at Lingfeng, “And this maiden is obviously an Ancient Celestial...”

Lingfeng hummed coldly in return.

The Ascension Goddess smiled wryly, “I know my physical limitations and there is no real cause for alarm.”

The four priests sighed secretly for they knew that the Ascension Goddess had already made up her mind!

The Ascension Goddess put her foot gently on the stone pavement. Immediately, the stone slabs beneath crackled in a forty foot radius! Her

internal strength was astonishing!

At the same time, she had already removed her hairpin that was tied into bun on top of her head and removed her priestly garb to reveal a beautiful golden silk dress with circular insignia underneath!

Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man immediately gasped shockingly, “The Celestium Silk!”

It was because they had recognized the only known place where the Celestium Silk could be found was in the Stellar Sanctuary! This material was impervious. No wonder she had no fear of them!

There was only two known Celestium Silk that was ever found in the Stellar Sanctuary and the celestials had fought bitterly over it. That included the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man. The last time a Celestium Silk was found in the Stellar Sanctuary, more than one hundred of the most powerful celestials perished as they fought over it.

Two of the lucky survivors of that bitter fight were the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man. The Universal Old Man did not know that the Heaveness had secretly obtained it and had hidden it.

The current whereabouts of the two known Celestium Silk was never known, until now.

The only difference between the two Celestium Silks was that the one the Heaveness had was white while the one that the Ascension Goddess had was golden.

The Universal Old Man could not resist asking, “Did you get it from the Stellar Sanctuary or someone else has given it to you?”

Ximen Nanqing was startled too. Even though this was the first time that he had heard of the Celestium Silk but judging from the startled expressions of both the Ancient Celestials and at the mention of the Stellar Sanctuary, he immediately knew that it must be a highly sought divine artifact!

Therefore his eyes began to look greedily at the Ascension Goddess as he began a hatch a plan to bring her to his arms. After all, she was an

extremely attractive celestial maiden and there was no need for him to hesitate at all or feel unbearable about it.

Ximen Nanqing had a way with the ladies. Those that he could not charm, he could seize them by force or trickery. Many celestial maidens, including the Stellar Heaven Fairy had fallen into his clutches. He had never failed to get what he wanted.

After all, he was a powerful celestial in his own right and he was careful to not to reveal his secret martial arts. This was his celestial domain and he did not become the lord of this domain through his kindness. He was really an unscrupulous man and he was proud of it.

But the Ascension Goddess ignored the Universal Old Man and instead she looked curiously at Yi Ping as she said spellbindingly, "Since you have already known who I am, maybe you should at least introduce yourself first. Am I not right to ask so? I heard them calling you Yi Ping. So your name is Yi Ping?"

She looked intently at Yi Ping, expecting him to show fear but he had continued to stand up heroically to her when she had displayed her extraordinary martial feat.

Lele muttered almost incoherently, "Stop calling his name so sweetly."

Yi Ping could not believe his eyes. In a single transformation, she had transformed into a spellbinding maiden with an extraordinary beauty. He fortified his will with the Absolute Spirits as he calmed himself down before replying, "Yes, I am Yi Ping."

The Ascension Goddess smiled, "Good. Do you have a celestial name?"

Shen Xingyue quickly warned, "Yi Ping, be careful and don't look into her eyes."

Yi Ping nodded and said rudely, "I don't have a celestial name. If you want to kill us, why bother to ask so much?"

The Ascension Goddess was somewhat startled by his insolence. It was because she was almost irresistible to men and few had dared to be rude to her. Those who were rude pay heavily for being disrespectful to her.

The Ascension Goddess was not upset by his rudeness. In fact, she was intrigued that he could resist her spellbinding charm given that he was just a lowly celestial.

She smiled at Yi Ping, Shui Yixian, Lie Qing, Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue, “Five versus one. That is truly interesting. So what are your names?”

Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng, Lie Qing and Yixian had already spread out as they encircled her slowly. The duel had already started!

Before the physical strokes had started, they had already begun with the invisible strokes; contesting with their state of divinity, willpower and mental aura!

This was as much dangerous as the physical strokes. A slightest mistake and distraction would mean instant death!

The Ascension Goddess said to Lingfeng, “Perhaps our esteem Ancient Celestial will like to introduce yourself first?”

Lingfeng said coldly, “You are not fit to know my name.”

The Ascension Goddess was not offended by her reply. Instead she looked at Lie Qing, “I see that you have the Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword. Do you know that it has the same origin as my Despairing Heavenly Sword? Your name?”

Lie Qing smiled enchantingly, “Interesting to know a history on the Perpetual Darkness. You can call me the Heavenly Temptress.”

The Ascension Goddess looked at Shen Xingyue as she rebuked her gently, “The Perpetual Darkness is a divine relic of the Ascension Sect. You actually give it to an outsider?”

Shen Xingyue hummed coldly, “I have lost it long ago. She has found it so it is hers now. Some things are pre-destined. I am not the Dark Enchantress anymore. My new celestial name is the Fiery Phoenix and the divine sword in my hand is the Blue Heavens Divine Sword.”

The Ascension Goddess nodded, “Magnificent divine sword! This divine sword of yours is a conqueror sword and is difficult to control. However

you will have no problem controlling this difficult divine sword given the state of divinity with the Perpetual Darkness that you have in the past. Perhaps, it is really your destiny to be the mistress of the Blue Heavens.”

She looked at Shui Yixian and said, “I didn’t expect that anyone can possibly bring the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword to the Celestial Realm. What is your name?”

Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy said gently, “Good. You recognize my divine sword. So you know what you are up against. I am the Celestial Fairy of the Eternal Ice Palace.”

The Ascension Goddess looked at Yi Ping’s divine swords and again at Yixian’s divine sword, “The Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword, the White Phoenix and the Divine Echo are divine swords of the Melody Palace and it is a major celestial clan in the lower realm. I don’t know how you managed to bring these divine swords to the Celestial Realm.”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping remembered something and he asked aloud, “Since you say that your Despairing Heavenly Sword has the same origin as the Perpetual Darkness, how did you manage to bring your divine sword to the upper realm?”

The Ascension Goddess smiled, “That is my destiny. If you really want to know, you have to pay a price to know. Do you really want to know? I will only tell you.”

Yi Ping was startled by her enigmatic reply.

Shen Xingyue interrupted her, “Shameless!”

Lele was flabbergasted as she exclaimed aloud, “Do you know that he is already someone else husband?!”

Youxue grabbed Lele’s left arm as she stepped forward, saying. “Now I really want to slap her!”

Yu’Er quickly called after them, “Wait sisters! She is only trying to taunt you! Don’t fall into her trap!”

Mei’Er had already stepped in front of them, “Wait! It is just her ruse!”

Through their Dual Inertness Heart Intricacy, they were aware of the intentions of the Ascension Goddess who was trying to turn her disadvantage into her advantage. The more attackers there were, the greater the confusions were!

Yu'Er said, "We should observe her martial moves first. It is not too late to intervene. If we all attacked at the same time, we are only hindering and distracting the rest."

Lele and Youxue pursed their lips. Their martial skills were not weak but they were aware that without any divine weapons in their hands, it was going to cost them a great deal of effort just to approach her. It was because they could hear the divine reverberating of her Despairing Heavenly Sword and it was casting a heavy sense of despair on everyone. Unless they could overcome this despairing aura, it was true that instead of being helpful they would be more of a hindrance!

Yi Ping's martial strength and power was not weak but they had noticed that throughout the fight with Yi Ping, she had never moved from her position and had repulsed him with total ease.

Dugu Yunzi said quietly, "Let's observe first."

Youxue sighed softly and nodded reluctantly.

The Ascension Goddess smiled coldly, "You better not try. Against my divine sword's despairing aura, you don't stand any chance. Maybe the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess will like to try with your divine swords."

She raised the brilliant tip of her divine sword that was being surrounded by a bright halo, "So which of the five of you will attack me first or all five of you will attack me at the same time?"

Lie Qing wanted to be the first to challenge the insolent Ascension Goddess but Shen Xingyue had already vanished from where she was standing and was raining dozens of sword strokes in all directions on the Ascension Goddess!

Her speed attacks were even more astonishing than the last time Yi Ping had seen her displaying it! In a blink of an eye, she could be attacking

from four different directions and raining dozens of rapid strokes!

Yi Ping was in awe as he thought, “How did she move this fast? It is not just her movements that are astounding fast, even her sword strokes are beyond belief as well! Co-coordinating swiftness movement skill and speed attacks are hard enough but she can perform these two feats at the same time...”

But the Ascension Goddess simply parried all the sword strokes with equally unbelievable speed; no matter in which direction Shen Xingyue had appeared and slashed at her, she simply parried all her attacks effortlessly with her sword arm without batting an eyelid or turning back.

The Ascension Goddess gave a wryly tease, “You got to do better than this to even hit me. Your attacks lack strength...”

But barely had she said that, Shen Xingyue had stopped immediately and had displayed her Starlight Divine Fingers and five beaming scarlet lights flashed in front of the Ascension Goddess!

The Ascension Goddess was startled as she quickly raised her left hand to deflect the attacks as she gasped, “Such speediness!”

Shen Xingyue had been secretly mustering her martial power. The instant that the Ascension Goddess had deflected her Starlight Divine Fingers, her fingers stance had become a palm stance as she displayed the Big Dipper Hands!

There was a heavy gravity force that had suddenly descended upon the surroundings as Shen Xingyue displayed the Big Dipper Hands! Even the ground beneath them started to crack!

Yi Ping was startled, “Xingyue, you...”

It was because the Big Dipper Hands were a powerful martial force skill. It was not just powerful but it was also earthshaking too! If Shen Xingyue was willing to use this skill then that could only mean she was bent on eliminating her target!

Before he could finish what he had to say, the Ascension Goddess had changed her stance just as fast as she displayed her Denunciation Force

while murmuring, “You! Master has actually imparted the Big Dipper Hands to you, how prejudice!”

There was a thunderous impact as the air exploded with a bursting windforce that ripped up the surrounding stone slabs and materials from the ground, sending it flying in all directions like deadly projectiles!

Yi Ping, Shui Yixian, Lie Qing and Lingfeng immediately displayed their martial skills to parry and evaded the speeding projectiles as they closed in to the Ascension Goddess!

Even before the Ascension Goddess had recovered from her thunderous exchange with Shen Xingyue, the cold beaming sword energy coming from the Celestial Fairy was already on her!

The Ascension Goddess immediately counterattacked and was startled that the Celestial Fairy was not only as quick as Shen Xingyue but her sword strokes were even more lethal!

In just a blink of an eye, there were dozens of blinding flash as the Celestial Fairy and the Ascension Goddess exchanged their attacks with astonishing speed!

The Ascension Goddess was startled by the martial display of the Celestial Fairy as she secretly thought, “I seem to have underestimate her. This extremely beautiful maiden isn’t just a beautiful vase. Her martial skills are just as startling.”

It was because she had not expected the Celestial Fairy to be able to tackle even three strokes from her. When she counterattacked, she had met with her strong resilience force that seemed to be nullifying her attacks!

Before the Ascension Goddess could recover from her initial surprise, Shen Xingyue and Ji Lingfeng were on her!

She quickly parried off the Celestial Fairy, Shen Xingyue and Ji Lingfeng at the same time and retaliated with a dozen strokes against them in a blink of an eye.

Ji Lingfeng raised her hand as she deflected the attacking sword strokes

gentle with just a flicker of her fingers. She was puzzled. She had fully awakened her Heaven Eyes and was now the Heaveness. But no matter how fast her attacks were, that Ascension Goddess would always evade or parried at the last moment!

The Ascension Goddess was equally startled that Lingfeng was not affected by her despairing aura, her deadly sword energies attacks and the combination of her Denunciation Force. It was because she had no divine swords to protect her. Even an Ancient Celestial would not be able to hold so many attacks against her so effortlessly without any divine relics for protection.

She thought, “She has a divine skill that is similar to my Denunciation Force?”

Her Denunciation Force was a martial power divine skill that could nullify forces. It could be used offensively or defensively!

Yi Ping wanted to rush forward to attack as well but he had hesitated at the last moment. It was because he did not feel comfortable in grouping together to fight against a lone maiden even if she was the enemy. In fact, he was secretly worried that she may not be able to handle the combine attacks of Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng, Yixian and Lie Qing!

Shen Xingyue said aloud, “Yi Ping and Lie Qing, what are you doing? Hurry and help us!”

Lie Qing had already mustered her Invincible Divine Force and there were eight wisps of faint bluish hues that were hovering around her. But unlike Yi Ping who was hesitating as he looked on, she was not attacking or seemed to have the intention of helping!

It was because she had already noticed that the combined attacks of Shen Xingyue, Shui Yixian and Ji Lingfeng were simply too dazzling and were simply beyond belief! But the most startling thing was that the Ascension Goddess was even more unbelievable; she was countering, parrying and evading all at the same time without being forced to shift from her original position!

It was something that not even the most powerful Celestial could

possibly do!

No matter how many attacks Shui Yixian, Ji Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue had suddenly increased in a blink of an eye, the Ascension Goddess would surely followed up with the same number of counters as she linked her attacks to simultaneously take everyone at the same time!

Was there such a thing in the world? It was as though she had no physical limitations or because she had not reached her physical limits yet? Either way, it was scary to think of it!

Not only Lie Qing was stunned, Yi Ping was stunned too! It was because he had never seen such martial display before!

The air around the Ascension Goddess began to explode thunderous and the martial force had even increased several tens of folds when the Celestial Fairy displayed her Divine Emerald Skill and Shen Xingyue had displayed executed her Big Dipper Hands again, combining with her Divine Rejuvenation Force!

Ji Lingfeng had also attacked with her Divine Invigorate Force, invigorating the martial power of the Asper Horizon Hand and the Holy Amalgamating Force as she attacked the Ascension Goddess with both hands displaying two different martial power skills at the same time!

But the result was the same and was almost surreal as the Ascension Goddess took their martial power attacks at the same time and repulsed their attacks!

All the onlookers, including the four priests, Ximen Nanqing, She Weilun, the Universal Old Man, Yi Ping and Lie Qing were staring at the martial display with a sense of disbelief! It was not only the counters of the Ascension Goddess that was abnormal but the speed attacks of the Celestial Fairy, Shen Xingyue and Ji Lingfeng were simply out of the world!

The attacks and counters were so astonishing that the martial exchanges of the four maidens were a total blur and a powerful martial windforce was sweeping maliciously to knock everyone off the ground and slamming them backward!

All of a Yixian stepped backward as she said coolly, “I know her martial secret. It is pointless for us to attack her at the same time.”

The Celestial Fairy was a martial prodigy. After exchanging briefly with the Ascension Goddess, she had discovered her martial secret.

It was because she had noticed that the Ascension Goddess martial origin was the same as her. Both were defensive skills in nature. Her Divine Emerald Skill was the nemesis of secret projectiles and was able to deflect force where else the Denunciation Force of the Ascension Goddess was able to nullify offensive force.

Therefore, it was very clear that she had managed to nullify their attacks partially so that she could use minimum efforts to deflect their attacks while maintaining her own attacks at optimize!

The weaknesses of her Divine Emerald Skill and the Denunciation Force were apparent to her; both martial skills were defensive skills and the best position to utilize these skills for the practitioner was by not moving at all!

Of course that was not all. She knew that by now that the Ascension Goddess did not really “see” their attacking strokes but had in fact sensed their forthcoming attacks before it happened. She had used minimum efforts to counter all their attacks and had even used the principle of borrowing their own martial power against one another!

That were why she was not afraid of fighting against multiple opponents!

While Lie Qing did not know any nullifying skills, she understood the principle of applying the motionless against the motion perfectly well when she fought with the speed opponents. That was the reason why she did not join in the battle immediately. Also, she had not figured how the Ascension Goddess was still able to counterattack with such ease against multiple opponents.

When the Celestial Fairy had suddenly stepped aside and had declared that she knew the secret of the Ascension Goddess’ fighting secrets, Shen Xingyue and Ji Lingfeng were not slow to catch on.

They had suddenly switched their tactics, slowing down drastically as they encircled the Ascension Goddess once again!

Shen Xingyue said coolly to Shui Yixian and Ji Lingfeng, "Applying the formless against the form! Let's see how she coped with our attacks!"

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, "Do you think that will work against me?"

All four of them were sweating but their eyes were full of stubborn determination!

Ji Lingfeng said coldly, "Look at you. You are tired already. I just don't believe that your martial power is unlimited."

Shen Xingyue said coldly, "Master had taught you the Denunciation Force. You may be able to nullify my attacks partially but don't forget my Divine Rejuvenation Force is also able to steal the martial power of your Denunciation Force at the same time."

By now, the Ascension Goddess had already realized that she had made a mistake in fighting them at the same time.

She said weakly, "Don't forget that I still have my Celestium Silk. All three of you are equally tired as well. The physical toil of using speed attacks is extremely taxing to the body."

The four priests had already sensed that the Ascension Goddess was being put in a disadvantage so they called aloud, "Don't forget we are still around too!"

But the Ascension Goddess did not seem to be looking at them for help. Instead she stole a glance at Yi Ping before saying, "Yi Ping, help me please."

Yi Ping was stunned at her request. He muttered, "We are opponents and you are asking me for help?"

The Ascension Goddess was in front of him in a blink of an eye, "You must help me because I have decided to surrender to you. If you do not protect me, who else will?"

Yi Ping was stunned completely as he muttered, "You...are...surrendering?"

The Ascension Goddess replied convincingly, "Yes!"

Seeing that Yi Ping was still full of doubts, she quickly added. "And you will also be the new lord of this domain!"

Ximen Nanqing was startled as he replied coldly, "What about us then? Don't forget we have an agreement. Don't tell me that a major sect like the Holy Ascension Sect will actually go back on their words."

The Ascension Goddess rebuked him coldly, "Did the Holy Ascension Sect promise you anything? It is only between you and me!"

Chapter 88: The Despairing Heavenly and the Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword

The Ascension Goddess looked coldly at Ximen Nanqing, “You don’t seem to be agreeable with my decision, am I right?”

Ximen Nanqing hummed coldly, “Not so easy. You seem to have forgotten that this is still my celestial domain and that my reinforcements are coming soon.”

The Ascension Goddess looked at She Weilun and the two clan division leaders that were standing beside Ximen Nanqing before chuckling softly.

She subtly glanced at the carnage and the dead corpses that were littered everywhere before smiling.

Sometimes, silence was deadlier than words!

She Weilun and the two clan division leaders had broken into cold sweat. They had caught her hint immediately. What good would their reinforcements be? Their fates would be the same as those lying on the ground!

In the entire Dominating Aura Clan, they knew that only Ximen Nanqing was the Ascension Goddess equal in match.

She Weilun was now trembling. He had already noticed that the Stellar Heaven Fairy was looking hatefully at him and could find any excuse to kill him even at a cost of her own attainment.

He had finally known fear!

He really did not know how he was going to get out of this situation today!

After witnessing the invaders’ martial prowess, he knew that both groups were completely out of his league.

When he thought how he had offended Yi Ping’s group, he was now regretting bitterly. It was because even if he had his full martial strength back, he would not be their match!

He had been with Ximen Nanqing for a long time and he knew that he could not give up his position of power without a fight. He was only afraid that Ximen Nanqing would ruthlessly use him to weaken his opponents' strength first so that he could strike at an opportune time.

At this moment, Lele said coldly Ascension Goddess, "Yi Ping is not going to be the lord of any domain."

She nodded to Lie Qing, who had responded by leaping forward and had raised her hand forward with the full martial power of her Invincible Divine Force!

The Ascension Goddess responded with her Denunciation Force and Yi Ping who was standing next to her was repulsed backward by her martial force.

Yi Ping thought, "Even with the internal strength of my Absolute Equilibrium Force, she could still push me with her mere execution of her martial force alone? And she is surrendering to me?"

His thoughts were quickly interrupted by a thunderous explosive impact as Lie Qing and the Ascension Goddess struck their palms together!

Because he was so near, he mustered his Boundless Force martial power just to stabilize himself on the ground but so mighty were their clashes, their exchanges had generated a furious bursting martial windforce that forced him to slide backward until Lele caught hold of him!

Lele said softly, "Ping'Er, are you alright?"

Yi Ping nodded but his attentions were quickly returned to the duel between the Ascension Goddess and Lie Qing who were surrounded by a wall of martial force and roaring twisters!

Yi Ping gasped, "This is...?"

Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy said quietly as she stood gracefully besides Yi Ping, "I have only heard of it but never seen it before. This natural phenomenon can only happen when both practitioners' martial force has reached a limit break and they must be equaled in martial force in order to see it."

Ji Lingfeng the Heaviness nodded quietly, "This phenomenon actually has a name and is called the Ultimate Dragon Vortex. Their divine swords are counterparts to each other and even their resultant martial powers are on par."

Yi Ping was startled, "The Ultimate Dragon Vortex? Why is it called that?"

Through the Great Emptiness Translucence, Yi Ping could sense that Lingfeng was looking extremely anxious.

Lingfeng replied quietly, "The weaker side will be forced to combat the exterior force that is being generated at the same time. It is like fighting against a weaker version of the Divine Calamity but with a super exponent constantly exploiting to find a weakness."

Yi Ping stared at the two shadowy blurs inside the whirling twisters and the howling windforce as he broke into cold sweat.

Lie Qing was being surrounded by a dark halo and there were nine faint blue wisps around. The number of blue wisps actually represented the martial power of her Invincible Divine Force! The Invincible Divine Force had five stages altogether, the Virtuous Level, Pious Level, Righteous Level, Holiness Level and the Divine Level. And Lie Qing was on the Holiness Level and was displaying the Ninth Invincible Force.

The Ascension Goddess was being surrounded by her Denunciation Force and the bright halo of her Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword was constantly moving and blinking.

Inside the whirling twisters, Lie Qing and Ascension Goddess were constantly exchanging shadowy blows and blinking sword strokes. In a blink of an eye, they had exchanged more than a dozen of epitome techniques which only caused the howling of the bursting windforce to howl eerier!

Everyone was holding their breath and they could only imagine the furious and thunderous exchanges. It was because the howling winds had drowned out all other sounds!

Yi Ping was panicky shouting, "Enough! Enough! Enough!" But his voice was completely drowned by the howling of the furious winds!

Yi Ping tried to barge into the furious twisters as he raised his entire martial power to barge into the Ultimate Dragon Vortex but he was quickly repulsed by an irresistible force!

However that did not stopped Yi Ping as he immediately exercised his entire martial power as he displayed the Asper Divinity Horizon Hand, not once but three times continuously, sending powerful waves of martial force rippling around him and rippling through the Ultimate Dragon Vortex!

There were three thunderous earthshaking thunderous impact and powerful martial windforce that swept through the area when Yi Ping had clashed with the Ultimate Dragon Vortex!

All the maidens gasped in startled surprise as they displayed their martial power to steady themselves, even the four priests and Ximen Nanqing did the same. However, She Weilun and the two injured clan division leaders of the Dominating Aura Clan were flung off and had crashed with a powerful impact on the collapsing city walls!

The collapsing martial force of the Ultimate Dragon Vortex could not be described with mere words for it was not just martial force alone; it also contained the deadly martial energies of the Denunciation Force and the Invincible Divine Force!

Even super exponents like the Celestial Fairy, the Universal Old Man, Ximen Nanqing, the Heaveness, Shen Xingyue and the four priests were panting breathlessly and were feeling wobbly!

As for the rest of the maidens, they were all forced to dozens of steps backward and they were feeling weak as though they had been afflicted by sword energies!

The Ascension Goddess had an uncanny ability to sense energies, was startled when Yi Ping had suddenly barged into the Ultimate Dragon Vortex!

Lie Qing too, was startled.

In that single instant, the Ultimate Dragon Vortex had died down just as quickly as it had appeared.

Yi Ping began to stumble backward but luckily, he was immediately helped by Yu'Er, Mei'Er and Youxue! Yi Ping immediately coughed out several bouts of blood!

Yixian, Lingfeng, Yunzi, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lele and Xingyue were not slow either. They quickly began to clear his vital channels by striking his accupoints!

The Asper Divinity was the most powerful stance of the Divine Horizon Hand and it required the entire martial power of the practitioner to execute. After using it, the practitioner would be drained by it. The physical exertion was so great that using it a second time would be fatal to most practitioners and their blood would even reverse, causing instant death!

Yi Ping knew of the risks and he could never use the Asper Divinity two times continuously unless he had no other choices. Once, he had used the Asper Divinity five continuous times and it was fatal to him. He could not have survived if not for the intervention of the Heavenness.

But earlier, when he had tried to use the Asper Divinity to dispel the martial windforce that was surrounding Lie Qing and the Ascension Goddess, he was met with the entire martial force of the Ultimate Dragon Vortex!

He was startled. Not only did his first Asper Divinity failed to make any impact, he was also at risk of being assaulted by the entire martial force of the Ultimate Dragon Vortex!

Therefore, he immediately reacted by fighting back with his most powerful martial power skill again. The second time that he had used the Asper Divinity, he could feel that he had made an impact and had caused the martial force of the Ultimate Dragon Vortex to weaken.

Out of desperation, he began to use the Asper Divinity a third time

when it became apparent that the martial energies of the Ultimate Dragon Vortex had suddenly exploded outward and was attempting to overwhelm him!

At the same time, the Ascension Goddess and Lie Qing were also flung off to opposite ends of each other.

Lie Qing gasped aloud when she was smashed into the city wall. Immediately, there was a thunderous impact as the section of the wall collapsed under her impact!

The Ascension Goddess crashed backward with a thunderous impact into a huge tree and she coughed out a bout of blood upon impact!

Yi Ping struggled against his injuries as he shouted panicky to the others, "Qing'Er! Quick, go and check on her..."

Before the dust had cleared, Lie Qing had picked herself up and she was staggering as she smiled weakly, "Ping'Er, I am alright. I am lucky that I am protected by my Golden Invincible Body..."

Yixian and Lele were already on her side as they pulled her aside.

Yixian said gently, "Qing'Er, you ought to recuperate first, your internal injuries are not light..."

Lele said anxiously, "Look at you. You almost got yourself killed and you can still smile!"

In the meantime, the four priests had surrounded the Ascension Goddess who was leaning against the big tree but they did not dare to touch her.

The priest with the white eyebrows said, "Your Esteem, may we aid you in clearing your energies channels?"

The Ascension Goddess was trembling but she was also looking at Yi Ping and Lie Qing at the same time, "No need. I will recover shortly. The Celestium Silk has saved my life."

Yi Ping was already beside Lie Qing in an instant as soon as he could move again as he called softly to her, "Qing'Er, are you alright? I got a big

scare just now...”

Lie Qing smile happily but her eyes were also teary, “Ping’Er, thank you! You have saved my life once again. You shouldn’t have done that. It is even more dangerous for you.”

Yi Ping had cuddled Lie Qing in his embrace and was holding her head to him. He was trembling nonstop and he was saying to her, “Qing’Er, you are safe now...I am so glad...I have almost lost you for the second time in this accursed place...”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er had looked away for their eyes had turned red and they were teary.

Lele sighed softly to herself, “Ping’Er likes Qing’Er the most?”

Xiao Youxue and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were also thinking the same, “Lie Qing has his heart?”

Lingfeng was smiling. She thought, “So this is true love? I wonder, I wonder...”

Shen Xingyue was pondering the same too but she was determined not to leave him even if he had changed his heart. It was because she had lost him once before. Sometimes when a person had lost something, it was already too late for regrets. Only then would they cherish for something that they had lost. She also knew that Yi Ping did not want to hurt any of the maidens.

Dugu Yunzi and Shui Yixian nodded quietly to each other. They were glad that Lie Qing was safe and were secretly enjoying this touching moment.

Meanwhile, Lie Qing and the Ascension Goddess were both secretly relieved.

It was because when Lie Qing and the Ascension Goddess had suddenly found themselves in the Ultimate Dragon Vortex, they knew that they were caught in a perilous situation!

They had never encountered this phenomenon before and were secretly

afraid. Even though they had never encountered this phenomenon before, they already knew how fearsome this Ultimate Dragon Vortex was. When there was any letdown in their attacks, they could sense an overwhelming martial energy from the Ultimate Dragon Vortex that was attempting to overcome them. Left with no other choices, they continued on their crazed attacks on each other!

The Ascension Goddess was trembling. It was not envy or her injuries that had caused her to tremble. It was because she had suddenly recalled her nine heavenly tribulations!

Her protégé master had once warned her, “Soon you are about to ascend. However, the celestial path that you are going to face is going to be more arduous than you have thought. The Divine Calamity and the Divine Wrath are just one of the nine heavenly tribulations that you are going to face. Not many of the celestial practitioners will get to face the ultimate tribulation which is the Celestial Wrath. Most didn’t survive long enough to encounter it.”

She had replied, “Master, please enlighten me!”

Her protégé master closed his eyes and said, “Soon I will pass away.”

She was startled and shocked, “Master?! It is impossible? You are one of the most powerful celestials of the Ascension Sect. Surely nothing will happen to you...”

Her protégé master smiled weakly, “It is because I have divulged too much of the heavenly secrets. However, my sacrifices will not be in vain. You ought to remember that there is another realm above this realm. You must transmigrate to Beyond to fulfill the destiny of the Ascension Sect.”

He paused for a while before saying solemnly, “With much difficulty, I have managed to divine one of your future nine tribulations. In time to come, you will encounter a most difficult heavenly tribulation that may take away your life. No matter what you do, be wary of the wielder of the Perpetual Darkness. The Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword and your Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword have the same origin but this same origin is also your bane in the future. Both divine swords will attempt to

destroy each other.”

She was shocked, “Shen Xingyue? That young maiden that has just joined us? How is it possible? She will become our enemy? The Perpetual Darkness is now with her...so I will see her in the celestial realm...”

Her master was silent for a while before he replied, “I do not know. Her tribulations are even more arduous than yours.”

She asked quietly, “Master, please advise me. How do I avert this heavenly tribulation?”

Her master sighed softly, “These two dark divine swords are once used by the most powerful of the Dark Celestials. There is darkness in the recess of these two divine swords. The divine swords by itself aren’t dark in nature but they are destined to clash again. Only through the will of a righteous man can the darkness of these two divine swords be dispelled.”

She was relieved to hear that, “There are so many righteous men...”

Her master said sharply, “There are none.”

She was startled, “How is it possible?”

She was now trembling...

Her master said, “There are fearless men, there are loyal men but they are all not righteous men. True righteousness is a self-belief that the weak will overcome the strong, good will triumph over the evil, his courage alone will bring hope to the desperate and his light shall dispel the darkness. There are no men that will not fall in to temptations of power and lust, have the good heart to forgive and fault himself first.”

She was startled, “Indeed, such a blameless person shall not exist in the entire fraternity...”

Her master nodded sadly, “The only way to avert this heavenly tribulation is to avoid confrontation with the Perpetual Darkness until you are fully prepared. You can only prolong the inevitable but not stop it from happening.”

She said quietly, “I am sure that in this vast fraternity, there must be

such a person. After I have ascended, surely there must be plenty of such righteous heroes in the Celestial Realm?”

Her master sighed, “The Celestial Realm isn’t as good as you have imagined...”

She asked curiously, “Meaning?”

But her master smiled gently, “That is for you to find out. However, you are destined to meet such a righteous man in your lifetime and only once.”

She asked quietly, “Master, I am afraid. What if I have missed him? There are so many people. What if I have met him in a crowded streets and I didn’t know it is him?”

Her master said, “You can’t miss such a heroic man, especially with your Purity Spirits. His righteousness will be like a bright beacon to you. You probably can sniff him out from a thousand miles away...”

She was suddenly startled because all of a sudden, she saw blood trickling from the tip of her master’s mouth. “Benevolent Master! What is happening? You...”

Her master halted her as he said weakly, “My time is running out fast. I have revealed too much of the secrets of heaven. This is my retribution. My beloved protégé, there is something that I must tell you and you must never reveal to anyone. Promise me that.”

She cried out, “Master! Don’t say anymore. Take a rest please...”

Her master said sternly, “Promise me! Or I won’t die in peace! Make an oath to Heavens!”

She suppressed her tears as she murmured, “I...I promise. I promise not to reveal to anyone. If I will to reveal to anyone the revelation of my master, my spirit will be destroyed and while I still live, I will never find rest.”

Her master said, “Good, good. That is my good protégé...There are two most mysterious places in the Celestial Realm, the Stellar Sanctuary and

the Astronomic Stellar Formation. It is said that the secrets of immortality lies in these two places. When you are in the upper realm, seek the Astronomic Stellar Formation first for the key to unravel the Stellar Sanctuary lies in that place...”

She was gasping in horror for she could see that her master was drying out rapidly in front of her.

But her master continued to mutter weakly, “The righteous man, he is the key to the Astronomic Stellar Formation!”

That night, she cried alone for she had lost her benevolent master forever. Her benevolent master had brought her up and had sacrificed his celestial practice to reveal as much heavenly secrets to her so that she would have forewarnings.

That was also the last time that she had cried too. It was because since then, she had discovered the cruel realities of the Celestial Realm where only the strongest survived and where those in power ruled the weak.

In her dreams, she had asked herself often. “I am so wrong. There is no righteousness in this realm. I have become a bully myself. Is that what I really want? I have lost all my innocent in this place and my spirit has become impure...”

But now when the Ascension Goddess saw Yi Ping, she was smiling again.

“He really exists...”

Her thoughts were suddenly interrupted by Shui Yixian, Shen Xingyue and Ji Lingfeng as they encircled her group.

Shen Xingyue said coolly, “My dear protégé sister, the fight isn’t over yet!”

The four priests immediately had already formed a protective circle around the Ascension Goddess began to hum coldly, “You have to get past to us first!”

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly at them but she was also

discreetly looking at Yi Ping.

Yi Ping caught her spellbinding glares and he was flushing. He thought, “Why is she looking at me like that? Why is that she is always looking at me?”

Indeed while the Ascension Goddess was talking earlier, her sight had never left Yi Ping. When she was in a duel with Shui Yixian, Shen Xingyue and Ji Lingfeng, she was still discreetly looking at him curiously.

The Ascension Goddess seemed to be saying as she looked intently at Yi Ping, “I have surrendered. I know you are a hero as well as the leader of this group. Surely you are not going to let me come to harm?”

Yi Ping suddenly said aloud, “Xian’Er, Xingyue and Lingfeng, she has already surrendered. Let her go.”

The Ascension Goddess fluttered her sleeves as she arranged her dressing, “Thank you! Master of the Domain!”

Yi Ping was startled, “When did I become the Master of the Domain?”

The Ascension Goddess smiled, “Ximen Nanqing had already fled during the confusion. If you are not the Master of the Domain, who else can it be?”

Yi Ping was startled as he quickly looked around.

Indeed, Ximen Nanqing had already fled!

All the other maidens were startled.

Mei’Er asked the Universal Old Man, “Aren’t you suppose to keep a watchful eye over him?”

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly, “Am I supposed to kill him then? If he wants to leave, I can’t stop him right?”

Yunzi said, “Ximen Nanqing is a dangerous opponent. We must be wary of him in future.”

Xiao Youxue sighed softly, “I have never expected him to be a coward. Frankly speaking, I do want to be the first kick his butt.”

Yi Ping nodded, "Just let him be for the time being. Remember, we are here to free the people and to give them back their freedom. As for the dead here, even though they may be dark celestials we should at least give them a decent burial..."

"Yi Ping!"

Yi Ping was startled. It was because the Ascension Goddess was calling out for him.

He turned and looked at her.

The Ascension Goddess said quietly as she gave him a forlorn glance, "I am leaving now. We will soon meet again..."

But she quickly changed her tone as she hummed, "However the next time we have met, you won't be so lucky. All domain lords are expected to pay homage at the congregation of the Holy Ascension Sect next year. As a domain lord, you are naturally invited."

Yi Ping said, "I don't want to be any domain lord so you don't have to invite me. I am not interested in any congregation."

The Ascension Goddess smiled, "Don't be too hasty first. You surely be interested."

She looked at Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man before saying, "The Holy Ascension Sect has already divined the next appearances of the Stellar Sanctuary. This will save you a lot of troubles and possible bloodshed if you are willing to convene with the Holy Ascension Sect."

Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man looked at each other and their first thought was, "Is that even possible?"

The Ascension Goddess manifested a number of spellbinding expressions to Yi Ping, "Farewell! Let's hope that the next time we have met, we are no longer enemies!"

She took one last look at Yi Ping before she turned around as she walked away with the four priests.

Yixian said quietly when the Ascension Goddess had left, "Ping'Er, we

must be extra vigilant against her. Earlier, she doesn't even bat an eyelid when she fought against us. She didn't use her full martial strength at all."

Lingfeng said quietly, "She didn't even need to turn around and she can parry, evade all our attacks..."

Shen Xingyue said, "She is able to 'energy sense' all our movements and attacks even before we ourselves have decided on the next moves. She has purposely created her own openings to lure us in order to predict our moves. That is why we can only use martial power to defeat her. I didn't expect her Purity Spirits to be able to reach this martial level of expertise."

Yi Ping nodded, "So that is why I have lost the first time! I have got to fight her again! Next time, let me be the one that try first. Maybe I can find a way to defeat her."

Lele giggled, "Ping'Er, I can't believe that you are such an idiot. She is such a charming maiden and you actually want to use her as your punching bag?"

Yi Ping was a little startled, "Did I say something wrong?"

Lingfeng laughed softly, "I wonder who the one that becomes a punching bag...is!"

Chapter 89: The New Domain Lord

Yi Ping was now suddenly the Lord of this city as he mused in his room.

His room was large. It was so big that there was a mini hall in the room itself!

This city used to be called the Dominating Aura City and now it had become the Tranquil City.

He felt funny. It was because he had never thought of himself as a lord or a ruler.

He had tried to reject the title but the people of this small city refused to disperse unless he had agreed.

“Who will protect us from the dark celestials if you are gone?”

“What if Ximen Nanqing has returned?”

“Only a righteous hero like you can lead us and help us to rebuild our lives.”

“We will not eat or drink unless Master Yi Ping agrees to be our lord!”

Finally, he had reluctantly relented.

That was how he had become the Lord of the Tranquil City and one of the domain lords of the Celestial Realm.

He was actually thinking, “How big actually is the Celestial Realm?”

But his thoughts soon turned to the large room that he was in, “This room is so spacious. I can practice my martial skills within this room and won’t have to go outside.”

So he began to practice his Divine Horizon Hands as he displayed its stance one by one...

All of a sudden, there was a knock on his door.

He thought, “Who can it be in this late hour?”

He could sniff a light but invigorating fragrance scent.

For anyone to approach the door without him being aware of it could only be Lingfeng, Yixian, Lele, Shen Xingyue or Xiao Youxue.

These five maidens had the best swiftness lightness skill and were the only ones that could approach his room discreetly without him noticing.

So he opened the door and saw an exquisite maiden in a white gold dress standing quietly outside with a flask and a jar of wine.

He was startled. It was because he had never seen such an exquisite maiden before. She had three beautiful gold hairpin adorned on her head, wearing a pair of white jade bangle, adorned with a beautiful tear shape sapphire necklace and wearing a pair of pearl earrings!

Yi Ping was startled as he blinked his eyes to ask, "Maiden, do I know you? Did you come to the wrong place?"

The beautiful exquisite maiden sighed softly as she eyed him with delicate eyes, "You are so heartless and so forgetful. It had only been a few days."

This time, Yi Ping was totally stunned. He stammered, "Maiden, I really do not know..."

All of a sudden, he totally froze on the same spot!

It was because he had suddenly recognized her delicate voice and from the way that she had looked at him; she was none other than the Ascension Goddess herself!

The Ascension Goddess smiled shyly, "So you have managed to recognize me? Just because I have changed to a new dress and arrange my hairstyle, you have failed to recognize me?"

Yi Ping stammered, "Didn't you left already? Why are you here? You are here to look for a fight?"

The Ascension Goddess asked softly, "Do I look like I am here for a fight with you or with the others?"

Yi Ping looked at her from top to bottom and from bottom to top again. She was unarmed and did not bring her divine sword.

He thought for a while as he looked at her before he said, “Your hairpins...these are your secret weapons. It can be used as a stabbing weapon or a secret projectile...”

The Ascension Goddess was stunned as she asked him, “You...you really hate me so much?”

Yi Ping was surprised by her question, “If you are not here to fight, what else will you be here for?”

The Ascension Goddess looked at the flask and the jar of wine that she was holding, “I am here to drink with you of course! Aren’t you going to invite me in?”

Yi Ping looked at the wines that she was holding and he was immediately tempted for the aromatic fragrant of the wines were really irresistible!

However, he smiled bitterly. “Is there drug in the flask? Or poison?”

The Ascension Goddess was indignant, “I have come all the way to toast you as the new master of this domain and yet you are suspecting that I will actually retort to such underhand methods to subdue you? You have really thought too lowly of me!”

Yi Ping smiled weakly, “The treachery of the fraternity is not to be underestimated. If we fight, you may not be able to subdue me in just a few strokes without alerting anyone. Therefore you are trying to use a stratagem to subdue me quietly.”

The Ascension Goddess was flustering with indignant, “You...you! Who has taught you all that?”

Yi Ping replied weakly, “My protégé master, the Universal Old Man!”

The Ascension Goddess was startled, “That lecherous old man is the Universal Old Man? One of the seven most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm?❖”

She was really astonished. The Universal Old Man was his protégé master and that old man was really the Universal Old Man? She did not

believe him at all. It was common in the Celestial Realm to be so and so all the time by false claimants.

Yi Ping said exasperatedly, "Maiden, he is my protégé master. You shouldn't have called him names..."

The Ascension Goddess cast away her shyness and hummed coldly, "So what if I call him a lecherous old man? He is what he is. The way he keeps looking at me, if he is not a lecherous old man then what he is?"

Yi Ping said firmly, "He is my benevolent master..."

The Ascension Goddess hummed coldly, "So you are saying, your benevolent master can be a lecherous old man..."

Yi Ping was startled, "That is not what I have meant! You should leave immediately."

The Ascension Goddess was startled as she softened her tone, "You...you really want me to leave?"

Yi Ping replied, "Yes. That's right."

The Ascension Goddess was hurt, "You think I am imposing upon you?"

There was a hint of a tear that was about to drop from her eyes.

Yi Ping was startled and he was suddenly panicky as he thought, "Did I say something wrong to make her cry?"

The Ascension Goddess said melancholy, "The night is so cold now yet I have come all the way to savor this extraordinary celestial wine with you. Instead of appreciating my efforts, you are doubting me instead. Are you a man or not?"

Yi Ping was immediately guilty and was ashamed of himself so he said panicky, "Maiden, please forgive me for my rudeness. Please come in..."

As soon as the Ascension Goddess heard that he was actually inviting her into the room, she broke into a smile and the sorrows in her eyes disappeared. "Thank you!" She quickly entered the warm chamber and had already seated herself comfortably.

Yi Ping was stunned at her quick movements.

He sighed softly as he quickly closed the door before he walked quietly to her.

The Ascension Goddess smiled and asked, "What are you waiting for? Have a seat and enjoy this celestial wine with me."

It was as though she was the host and he was the guest.

He reluctantly seated himself next to her but averted his glances from her.

The Ascension Goddess asked, "Why don't you look at me?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "No need!"

The Ascension Goddess said softly, "You really should."

Yi Ping asked, "Huh?"

The Ascension Goddess said quietly, "Even though you are a super exponent and have a keen hearing but if you avert your eyes against a super exponent like me, you will be at a disadvantage. Am I not right to say so?"

Yi Ping was startled that she had actually tried to warn him. He could only nodded quietly as he asked, "Surely, you didn't come here just to have a drink with me?"

The Ascension Goddess asked with a mysterious smile, "Surely you are so bored that you are practicing alone. So I have come to spar with you!"

Yi Ping was startled, "You shouldn't have possible know that I will be practicing my martial arts. I have only just thought of that earlier..."

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, "That's because I am good in divining!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly. He was most afraid of another maiden that was like Lele. That was because he was not good in guessing their intentions.

The Ascension Goddess saw his expressions and she winked at him, "I am only teasing you. Don't you think too much, alright? Come, let savor

this wonderful wine together!"

Yi Ping had already sniffed the wonderful aromatic of this celestial wine and was actually tempted to try but he had not let down his guard.

He asked, "Does this celestial wine have a name?"

The Ascension Goddess replied, "It is called the 'Forget Affections Wine'."

Yi Ping muttered, "What a weird name. Is there any reason why the name is called such?"

The Ascension Goddess smiled, "It is said that those who drink of it will forget all the unhappy affections that they have been experiencing, hence the name."

Yi Ping sighed, "Hopefully..."

It was because he had been troubled by the affairs of the heart all too often.

The Ascension Goddess began to take a wine cup from the table and poured the aromatic fragrant wine from the wine flask as she took a sip, "Won't it be great to forget about all the troubles of the world and be carefree?"

Yi Ping did not think she was here to harm him so he had actually let down his guard. So he broke the paper cover of the wine jar that the Ascension Goddess had brought as he gulped the wine that was in it.

The first taste of the wine was heavenly! In fact he had never tasted such a wonderful wine in his life before! He praised aloud, "What an excellent wine! What heavenly wine!"

Before he knew it, he had actually finished the entire jar of wine!

The wine was extremely intoxicating and after finishing it, he was feeling a little pitiful that there was no more. He had never drunk such a wonderful wine before in his life before!

But when he looked at the Ascension Goddess, he was a little startled that she seemed to be staring at him with a weird beguiled expression!

He asked wobbly, “What is wrong? Here! A toast to you!”

The Ascension Goddess murmured, “You are not supposed to drink all of it at one go...”

Yi Ping said jovially, “What will happen if I finish it at one go? There is nothing to worry about...my tolerant for alcohol is really strong...really very strong...”

Chapter 90: The Forget Affections Wine

The Ascension Goddess smiled bitterly as she said with startled expressions, “You didn’t realize how precious this Forget Affections Wine is in the Celestial Realm, didn’t you? Like martial miraculous divine pills, unlike the Divine Dragon Pill which can only increase your martial power and strength, this Forget Affections Wine is able to further refine a martial practitioner’s internal energy. It is at least three thousand years old and is made of the most precious divine herbs in the celestial realm...”

Yi Ping exclaimed aloud, “No wonder it is so good! It is indeed heavenly!”

The Ascension Goddess smiled bitterly and she was a little afraid now, “It may be a miraculous wine but is advisable to only drink small quantities at a time because it have an aphrodisiacs effect which may be fatal...”

She really did not expect Yi Ping to seize the entire wine jar and finished it in one gulp. It was because at the very start, she could sense that he was still on his guard against her. She really did not expected him to drop his guard so completely and had even prepared and rehearsed a rebuke speech that she had prepared for him if he had rejected her wines!

“Do you know how precious this Forget Affections Wine is? Not even the elders of the Holy Ascension Sect are able to savor it...”

“I am going to reveal a little secret of this wine to you to make you regret your decisions for not trusting me...”

“You think you are smart but it seems you are not! Let me tell you why...”

All her carefully drafted speech was completely undone. She had spent days preparing for it and daydreaming his cute reactions.

She had often pondered, “Will someone with a righteous air like him beg me for a rare opportunity to increase his internal strength? I have seen many men who are willing to sacrifice their pride, dignity and even their love ones to advance themselves...”

But now, it was she who did not know what to say or do now!

Yi Ping laughed softly as he took out two wine cups and started to pour from her wine flask, “Lucky, there is still some more of it. This time we can drink slowly and to slowly savor it...actually you don’t have to worry about me. I have my Absolute Spirits. A little aphrodisiac can’t really affect me. Also it is not possible for me to feel drunk so easily nowadays and moreover, didn’t you drink from your wine flask also earlier?”

The Ascension Goddess quickly seized the wine flask from him as she said panicky, “You are already drunk and trust me; in fact your life is in danger!”

She quickly took his hand, “Come outside with me. The cold air outside may be able to help you! It is not too late yet...”

As she touched his hands, she could feel an electrifying shock that passed through to her and she was startled!

All of a sudden, she had gone weak and wobbly as she looked into his eyes with her Purity Spirits.

She was fluttering and his righteous air was irresistible to her just as the moth was drawn to the deadly flames.

She whispered tenderly, “Tell me who you are, all your past and what you have experienced. Everything, I want to know all about you...”

She sighed softly, “This is not right. I need to save him first. But I don’t really know how to save him...”

She had suddenly flushed deeply. It was because it was not true that she did not know the way to save him. The only way to save him was to get intimate with him but it was something that she did not prepare for it and was at a loss.

She was suddenly panicky as she examined his pulses, “Oh terrible, his vital energy is now reversing...”

Yi Ping was breathless and he was suddenly feeling very hot as he muttered, “I feel so hot and uncomfortable. I am so thirsty...”

Unconsciously, he had started to remove his clothing.

It was because when the Ascension Goddess had grabbed him, he too had felt an electrifying feeling and he was suddenly feeling very hot as he eyed the Ascension Goddess.

He tried to shake his confusion off as he looked at this delicate beautiful maiden that was in front of him. No matter how he struggled to recall what was going on, his mind was a total blank. He could not even recall who he was.

The delicate beautiful maiden seemed to be talking to him but he could make no sense of it. His mind was completely blank and nothing made sense to him now!

He grabbed her and hugged her tightly.

Even though that did not ease his burning sensation and breathlessness when he had touched her, she was like a cooling block of ice that brought a soothing feeling to him!

The Ascension Goddess was startled that Yi Ping had suddenly grabbed her into his embrace.

She began to protest weakly, almost incoherently but she made no attempt to push him away.

All of a sudden, Yi Ping began to rip her dress frantically but he could only rip off her outer garment.

The Ascension Goddess knew that he had totally lost his self-control as she struggled weakly under his weight.

The Ascension Goddess clenched her fingers lightly as she muttered, "I really didn't expect my first time to be so unromantic..."

She calmly removed her hairpins and earrings as she casted it aside before she said tenderly to Yi Ping, "You are so silly. I am wearing the Celestium Silk. No matter how strong you are, you can't possible tear it off me. You are just hurting me with your poor attempt and brutish force..."

It was not as though he could understand what she was saying at this moment but she had said it to ease her nervousness and as a cover for her shyness.

The Ascension Goddess said shyly, "Right now, you have been afflicted by a pure positive deviation phenomenon heat. If I do not treat you with the negative pureness of my body then you will surely die when your meridian channels rapture..."

But no sooner had she loosened her silk belt and removed her Celestium Silk, Yi Ping had grabbed her hard and they had tumbled all over the ground together.

The Ascension Goddess seemed to be experiencing a dream and she did not know what was really happening next but they were all over the room, knocking into the tables, chairs, cupboards and other furniture!

In her dream like trance, Yi Ping and her were living an ordinary life but they were also extremely blissful. She would wait for him in the house as she prepared his meals for him while Yi Ping was working in the fields. The beautiful golden harvests of their crops sketched over the sunset horizons. As he returned from the fields, their small children would run to him joyfully...

Very soon, she had overcome her shyness and she was saying tenderly to Yi Ping, "You have come to my life and I am glad to share your destiny. We are one now and our next step should be cultivating as a Dual Celestial together. Don't you think so?"

But Yi Ping seemed to be in great agony; he was bemoaning weakly as he kissed her violently. It was because he had totally lost his senses.

The Ascension Goddess said softly, "So this is the pleasures between couples. I have given you my chastity. If you don't like me, I really don't know what will happen next. Hopefully not. But now today, there is nothing in this world that can separate us now..."

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door and a heavenly voice could be heard.

“Ping’Er, are you alright? What is the noise inside?”

It was Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy. She could not sleep and was taking a slow stroll in the cold night. But unconsciously, her walk had taken her to the courtyards of Yi Ping’s residence. However, she did not walk inside for she was sighing melancholy.

“Lele and Lie Qing are probably inside already. Or even Lingfeng or Shen Xingyue. I shouldn’t have intruded upon their privacy and quiet moments.”

She was sighing softly as she reminiscence how she had first met Yi Ping.

Back then, she was still the Divine Emerald Mistress of the Eternal Ice Palace and they had met under the most unusual of circumstances at the peaks of the Heavenly Mountains. He had actually saved her life when she was most vulnerable and she had pledged herself as his wife as gratitude.

Just when she had thought that she could escape her fate, an old enemy of hers arrived to deal her a fatal blow. That enemy was Xiao Youxue, who had hatched an elaborate plan to exact vendetta on her on behalf of her grandmother and mother.

She really thought that she was going to die that time.

It was a lucky that she had just achieved a breakthrough to the tenth level of the Icy Heavenly Tears. Even though she had survived the attempt, she was grievous injured. She did not know when she could recover from her injuries and how long she could live. She secretly entrusted her two direct protégés Yujian and Meijian to take care of Yi Ping and to keep the fact she was still alive from him.

But when Yi Ping had secretly left the Eternal Ice Palace to seek vendetta for her, she was startled.

Against all odds and anxious for the wellbeing for Yi Ping, she had actually made a startling recovery.

It was then she had begun to have some doubts on her Emotionless

Rhyme Heart Intricacy Skill.

“While I try to suppress my emotions, my internal injuries couldn’t recover. But when I am eager to look for him, I have actually made a startling recovery...”

Later, even though she had finally found Yi Ping again but she was disappointed that he was being surrounded by quite a few lovely maidens.

She felt out of place even though they had already pledged themselves.

She had thought, “Maybe Yi Ping thought that I am dead. This isn’t really his fault. I am to blame. I should have given them their blessings.”

That was her original intention.

Even Xiao Youxue had thought of the same too.

But Lele the Joyful Goddess was simply too insolent and none of the other maidens except for Lie Qing could do anything to stop her. That was when Xiao Youxue and she were forced to reveal themselves.

That was when she realized that Yi Ping had her in his heart all the time.

What was love?

Love was noble and self-sacrificing.

She knew that she was facing the Divine Calamity and if she perished during her divine tribulation, Yi Ping would be grieved and could not concentrate on his upcoming battles with the Honor Manor.

So she did not tell him the truth and just told him that she needed a quiet place to overcome her divine tribulation. With Lie Qing and Lele around to help her, she tried to assure him that she would be perfectly alright.

That was not the truth because she lacked the confident.

Eventually, she was still unable to have any assurances about Yi Ping’s safety and pleaded for Lie Qing to aid Yi Ping and not to tell him anything.

Lie Qing had reluctantly agreed.

But in the end, she was still unable to focus fully on overcoming her divine tribulation so she decided to abandon her mediation to look for Yi Ping.

Lele simply refused to let her go!

But she had pleaded to Lele, “Lele, do you know that Yi Ping is the most important person in my heart? Even if I were to give up my life for him, I am all too willing! All I want is to see him live a full life and be safe.”

Lele reluctantly agreed even though she did not want it. It was because she had remembered that the Celestial Fairy was Revelation Star and she had given up her life for her in the past so that they could meet again.

Lele said melancholy, “Everyone thought that I am living in my own world. Only you know me well. Why must you always be the one that is forever sacrificing yourself for us? You can choose to be with the White Sage in the past but instead, you sacrifice yourself for Sister Lie Qing and me so that in this lifetime, we can be together once again. But look what is happening now. We are all your love rivals again but instead of fighting with us, you choose to sacrifice yourself once more? Can’t we just all be together again? You can choose to give up your ascension for all of us but do you know that your actions will only cause us great grief? Have you forgotten that when you have died, the White Sage has also given up his life for you!? Do you really want to drive Ping’Er to his death?”

Yixian said gently, “I don’t have a choice. I have killed too many people in this lifetime. My divine tribulation will be particular harsh. Even a serene place such as this won’t be able to stop the malevolent aura of the Divine Calamity.”

Lele said bitterly, “We never know till we have tried. Sister Xian’Er, please don’t give up yet.”

In the end, she still could not put Yi Ping down from her innermost heart and could not focus on her upcoming battle with her Divine Calamity to look for Yi Ping.

Finally when it was time for her to face her Divine Calamity, it was Yi Ping that had successfully aided her at his own peril.

But when she had successfully become a celestial practitioner, she was forced to separate from Yi Ping again because the divine state of the Celestial Genesis and Celestial Emotion Level was fatal to celestial practitioners.

But Yi Ping could have none of this. No matter how arduous it was and no matter how impossible it was, he was going to train as a celestial practitioner too.

In order to make it a possibility, all the maidens decided to work together and kept a strict celestial pledge not to get emotional attach before they could all ascended to the Celestial Realm.

When they had just arrived in the Celestial Realm, they were immediately attacked by the Dark Celestials.

During the battle with Lian Longba who was a powerful Dark Celestial, she was grievously injured and would have died if Yi Ping did not give up the essence of the Divine Dragon Pill that was within him to save Lie Qing and her.

She was really touched.

Now that they were in the Celestial Realm, she had thought of consummating their marriage but she was really too shy. She may be a prodigy martial exponent but she had zero experiences in the affairs of the heart. She had tried to hint Yi Ping but he did not seem to get it either...

With so many other maidens that were contesting for Yi Ping's attention, her time with him was really limited.

Everyone had assumed that she was cool to affections because she was practicing the Emotionless Rhyme Heart Intricacy Skill. But the truth was the opposite. She just did not know how to display her affections...

She sighed to herself, "What should I do?"

But when she was about to leave, she had heard a large racket inside. Fearing for Yi Ping, she had immediately entered the residence and knocked on the door.

She asked, "Ping'Er, are you alright? If I am intruding, please tell me. I will leave immediately. It is alright..."

But instead of Yi Ping's gentle voice that was greeting her, she could hear his agonizing bemoaning and the smashing sound of a porcelain vase!

She was immediately alarmed for Yi Ping would never throw such a racket like this as he was a gentle person. Also, he would never cry out with such heartbreaking agonies for he had extraordinary threshold towards pain.

Sensing something was really amiss and she was wasting crucial moments while waiting, she forced the door opened with her Divine Emerald Skill, which immediately sent the wooden doors shattering in all directions!

As she stepped inside, she was totally stunned to see Yi Ping and the Ascension Goddess entwining together and both of them were completely naked!

The entire room was completely in a mess!

She smiled bitterly, "It seems that I am the one intruding."

The Ascension Goddess was too engrossed in her activities and trying to ease Yi Ping's pain that she did not notice that Yixian was at the door.

So when she had heard Yixian's voice, she was immediately panicky and tried to silence Yi Ping but instead of succeeding, she had only made Yi Ping cried out even louder!

The Ascension Goddess was flushing deeply as she said shyly, "No, you are not. In fact, you have come at the right time..."

She quickly pushed Yi Ping aside as she grabbed her Celestium Silk to cover herself partially, "He is being afflicted by a deviation phenomenon

and unless we help him immediately, he will surely die of blood rupturing!”

Yixian had already noticed that Yi Ping was not behaving normally. In fact, he was like a behemoth beast that was lurching himself at the Ascension Goddess!

The Ascension Goddess immediately danced around Yi Ping, evading his clumsy assaults.

Yixian averted her eyes as she caught hold of Yi Ping’s wrist and examined his pulses, “What is happening? What did you do to him?”

She had immediately used her Divine Emerald Skill to hold the enraging Yi Ping on the ground.

The Ascension Goddess said tearfully, “What did I do to him? You should ask him what he has done to me instead...”

Yixian said coldly, “You can stop your pretense. If you are not here, will Ping’Er be in this state? Surrender the antidote. What did you do to him and what have you given to him to cause him to be in this state. If you don’t tell me the truth, don’t blame me for being impolite.”

The Ascension Goddess was a little afraid of Yixian’s chilling cold air which seemed to have turned murderous at the same time. It was because she had expended too much of her internal strength to aid Yi Ping earlier that she was now exhausted.

So she said, “He just had too much of a drink. I did warn him but he refused to listen. Surely you can tell that I am also trying to save his life? But that is really too much even for him.”

Yixian said coldly, “Explain?”

The Ascension Goddess said coolly, “I don’t care if you are to kill me now but I plead to you that you must save him now before it is too late. He has been afflicted by the lustful phenomenon of the deviation fire and only by coupling with a maiden can he be saved. Did I make it clear enough to you?”

She had indeed made it very plain obvious for her to understand.

Yixian was startled and she quickly reexamined his pulses. Indeed, there was no sign of any poisoning but his body was burning and his entire meridian pulses were disorderly.

She looked quietly at the Ascension Goddess, "Quickly, save him..."

The Ascension Goddess was really close to tears for sure. Did she just hear correctly? She asked, "Did you just ask me to save him? Can't you see that I have already done my best? Unfortunately my internal strength isn't the cold negative type and there is only so much I can do. Now that you are here, I should be the one that is glad. You are his wife so you should be the one that should save him. So perform your duties."

Before she revisited Yi Ping, she had already gathered information about him from her spies in the Tranquil City.

Yixian was startled by her boldness. It was not she was unwilling but she really did not know how to start.

So she asked quietly, "I...how do I get start?"

The Ascension Goddess was truly startled, "Don't tell me you have never..."

Yixian nodded gently.

The Ascension Goddess was stunned but she quickly regained her composure as she said shyly, "Actually it is my first time too. It is easy. But first, you got to remove your clothes..."

She fetched a wine flask and gently gave to Yixian, "There is still some wine leftover here. You can have it to loosen your inhibitions..."

Yixian could tell that the wine from this flask was truly aromatic and was a superior wine just by sniffing it. So she took the flask and gulped some of it.

Chapter 91: The Divine Virtuous Force vs. the Dominating Force

Xiao Youxue was sitting melancholy in the small pavilion while looking at the full moon.

The full moon in the Celestial Realm was several times larger than the lower realm but she was only paying scant attention on it.

It was because she was thinking dreamily of Yi Ping and how they were acquainted, how they had become enemies and finally becoming close confidants.

She was still thinking of the battle that had occurred with the Ascension Goddess, thinking how anxious Yi Ping was for Lie Qing when she received an injury.

She was sighing melancholy to herself, "Among all the maidens, I am the first to be acquainted with him. Yet it is now Lie Qing who has the most important place in his heart...did I not try hard enough or is the Heavenly Temptress really so good in capturing the hearts of men?"

She murmured, "Qing'Er, Qing'Er...maybe at this moment, she is already in Yi Ping's embrace while I am drinking alone. Or maybe it is Lele, Shen Xingyue or even Lingfeng. Sister Xian'Er, now I know how you have been feeling. Among all the maidens, we are the most shy. Even though we are also the closest to Yi Ping but we are also the furthest away. Alas..."

All of a sudden, she was alerted by the light approaching footsteps of another person through her sharp perception.

It was the Stellar Heaven Fairy and she had just walked quietly into the courtyard.

Even though her steps were extremely light like a cat but it was almost impossible to surprise Youxue.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed softly as she entered the courtyard.

She said quietly, "You are still awake?"

Youxue nodded and asked, "The same goes for you too. You can't sleep?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sat down beside her as she sighed softly, "I have been thinking of many things. I am thinking mostly of Yi Ping..."

Youxue was startled that the Stellar Heaven Fairy would open her heart to her. It was because among all the maidens, she kept mostly to herself.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy bit her lips, "I have been thinking of him. I really want to know everything about him. Can you tell me about him?"

Youxue was really startled.

She looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy with her mesmerizing eyes and said coolly, "Why are you asking me? Do you know that Yi Ping is my husband? To me, you are just someone who wants to take away my husband. Do you think I will really be so open about it even though it is common for man to have many wives and concubines?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled gently, "Yunzi tells me many good things about you. Can I befriend you?"

Youxue answered coldly, "Did you not hear what I have just said?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said gently, "I did but I really want to befriend you."

Youxue looked at her, "You may be a Golden Celestial while I am a lowly lower celestial practitioner. Why should you want to befriend me? Just because you want to get close to Yi Ping? You have better find some other maidens like Lie Qing, Lele, Shen Xingyue and Yixian. They are pretty close to him."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said shyly, "I did already."

Youxue looked at her, "You did already?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed softly as she looked intently at Youxue, "I have met Shen Xingyue before actually. It is actually I who has enlightened her in the past and guided her. I didn't expect that she would be initiated into the Ascension Sect and is now a Supreme Celestial with a higher attainment than me."

She was melancholy all of a sudden, “As for Lie Qing, Lele and Yixian... do you know that I am their protégé mistress previously? You are Yixian’s protégé so that makes you my grand protégé too. So why can’t I look for you?”

Youxue smiled bitterly, “So, suddenly now I have a grand protégé mistress. You really think I will buy that? My sacred vows are to the Eternal Ice Palace...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy interrupted with a wryly smile, “You also have a sacred vow towards your protégé mistress. Your Protégé Mistress’ patriarchs and matriarchs are also yours. It doesn’t matter if it is the Eternal Ice Palace or the Melody Palace.”

Youxue said coldly, “So grand protégé mistress, you are trying to force me to tell you everything about Yi Ping?”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed softly as she stood serenely.

Youxue was startled that there were tears in the Stellar Heaven Fairy’s eyes and that she was actually weeping.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quietly, “That is not my intention to force you. I just want to talk to you and be comforted. I have no friends here and I hope that you can be a sister to me. You cannot imagine the heartbreaks and the tears that I have been through. Lian Longba and She Weilun are both dead now. I want to take vengeance on Ximen Nanqing but I have no others to turn to. Even though I may have recovered my martial strength but our differences are simply too great now.”

Youxue was a maiden that was extremely cold on the surface but she was actually an extremely warm maiden in her heart. She had actually disguised her emotions like Yixian because she was a practitioner of the Icy Heavenly Tears and the Emotionless Rhyme too.”

She placed her hands on the Stellar Heaven Fairy and said softly, “I will surely help you to take your vengeance no matter how arduous it is. You can count on me as your little sister if you are willing...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled at her sudden change of tone as

she said tearfully, "I am willing...of course I am willing! My dear little sister!"

Youxue smiled and said tenderly, "My elder sister!"

All of a sudden, Youxue froze. It was because she had detected a slight malevolent aura no matter how invisible it had been in the shadows; someone malicious had silently walked into this courtyard!

Youxue immediately scanned her surroundings anxiously.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy asked, "What is wrong, little sister?"

The intruder was a martial super exponent and he had tried his best not to be detected.

However, Youxue had the same hyper alert sense as Yixian the Celestial Fairy. Few exponents could come within three hundred paces of her without her knowing! In order to fool her father Xiao Shuai who was a super exponent himself, she had even trained her lightness swiftness movement skill and breathing to a supernatural level; she could sneak undetected to even the most experienced super exponents!

Xiao Youxue said coldly, "Come out! I know you are there!"

A man walked out of the shadows.

When the Stellar Heaven Fairy saw him, she was startled. "Ximen Nanqing! You are here!"

Ximen Nanqing looked at her coldly, "Why shouldn't I be here? This place is mine in the first place. I won't give it up so easily. You have killed my protégés and subordinates. Overnight, I have lost everything. Tonight, I will kill all of you and get back all that I have lost. Or better yet, I will torture you till you wish you are more willing to be dead than alive."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quietly, "Little sister, run and notify the others..."

Xiao Youxue looked quietly at her, "If I go, you may not be able to handle him..."

Ximen Nanqing shouted aloud, "Not so easy!"

He had dash forward with extraordinary speed and the entire air had exploded as he had displayed the Dominating Force!

It was even more powerful than Lian Longba's Dominating Force!

Yi Ping had warned them not to take the Dominating Force headlong as it was even more powerful than his Asper Divinity Horizon Hand.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy knew that she could not evade this blow of his. If she did, she would be struck down because her movements would be slowed down by the martial force of the Dominating Force.

So she pursed her lips and raised her entire martial force as she raised her slender hand forward to receive his attack, pushing Youxue backward at the same time.

Youxue was startled, "No wait, elder sister!"

But it was already too late, she had already received Ximen Nanqing's blow headlong.

There was a thunderous explosive impact and the Stellar Heaven Fairy had immediately coughed out blood! But she refused to yield and just took a step back!

Even before the first blow had finished, Ximen Nanqing had casually attack with his Dominating Force again!

This time round, the Stellar Heaven Fairy could not withstand his attack again. She was immediately flung backward across the courtyard!

Youxue caught hold of her in midair as she stared coldly at Ximen Nanqing with her mesmerizing eyes, "You..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said weakly, "Sister, why are you still here? Have...you forgotten the fight with Lian Longba? The level of his Dominating Force and Dominating Aura is in a totally different league from him...you are not his match...escape please..."

Youxue said gently, "Rest please, sister. I won't run without a fight."

She looked at Ximen Nanqing coldly as she stepped forward.

Ximen Nanqing laughed, "Interesting maiden. You are not afraid?"

Youxue replied coldly, "The one that should be afraid, is you!"

Ximen Nanqing hummed coldly, "It seems that you are eager to be dominated by me, hence you are still here. Let me tell you. If the Holy Ascension Sect isn't there on that day, I may not leave quietly for the time being."

Youxue said coldly, "Oh? You seem to have forgotten that there are two Ancient Celestials in the group."

Ximen Nanqing laughed as his golden eyes beamed, "You are just a lowly celestial. What do you know of the divinity level of the Golden Celestials? The Ancient Celestials may be powerful but they are not invincible. Do you have any idea how many Ancient Celestials that I have defeated in the past? Once I have a divine sword in my hand, I may truly be invincible. These Ancient Celestials are foolish. If I were them, I would have already assassinated all of you and took your divine swords."

Youxue hummed coldly, "That is only what you have thought. Now you don't have a divine sword in your hand so you are not invincible. I don't have a divine sword in my hand either so this will be a fair fight."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy leaned against the pillar of the pavilion as she gasped weakly, "Sister, don't provoke him...The angrier he is, the more powerful his Dominating Force is!"

She coughed out blood once more. She had really exerted herself and had suffered severe internal injuries.

Ximen Nanqing looked coldly at the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "It is good that you know. Looking at you now makes my blood boils. You have a hand in my protégé, Lian Longba's death. I have grown tired of you. Tonight I will send you to be a couple to my beloved protégé."

He looked at Youxue, "As for you, you will pay for your insolence. You should have surrender at the first opportunity. Did you not see the strength of my martial power?"

Youxue said coldly and her cold demeanor was even colder than ever,

“Your protégé had taken advantage of us when we are at our weakest. I have meant to vent my frustrations for a long time and since you are his protégé master, I will use you as my venting target!”

Ximen Nanqing said coldly, “What an insolent maiden. Soon, you will be begging me...”

But before he could finish, Youxue was at his side as she raised her weak attacks at him!

He was startled. She could actually move like the silent wind with such a startling speed. Even a wind would cause a disturbance and gave a martial exponent with keen hearings an opportunity to defend himself but her movements were completely silent!

He said coldly, “Such weak attacks...”

As he raised his hands to receive her attacks, all of a sudden, her weak attacks exploded and became a furious burst of explosive and powerful attacks!

He was startled as he met her blow by blow, “What kind of attacks are those?”

Youxue did not reply him.

She had displayed her Penetrating Hands Skill swiftly but she still could not get past his defenses!

She thought, “It seems that this will soon turn into a martial power contest. Whoever has the more enduring martial power and internal strength would gain the upper hand...”

After gauging her target martial power and strength, she knew that even if her Penetrating Hands had struck him, she could not penetrate his Dominating Aura and injure him.

Ximen Nanqing did not want to be dragged into a long fight either. His strength was his startling martial power skills.

So he quickly switched to his Dominating Force at her!

Xiao Youxue did not panic or tried to evade.

She calmly received his blow and there was a thunderous explosive as the entire ground started to vibrate earthshakingly!

Ximen Nanqing was startled that he was pushed back three steps backward by her!

Xiao Youxue stood on the same spot regally and there were no signs that she had received any injuries. In fact, she was either flustered or breathing heavily after the execution of a martial power skill!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was stunned that Youxue had received a blow from Ximen Nanqing in such a calm manner. She immediately thought, "Is it because Ximen Nanqing didn't use his entire strength?"

Martial Power skills required plenty of vital energies and it was extremely tiring to use. But judging from the thunderous impact, she was sure that Youxue had used a martial power skill and not an internal strength skill.

Ximen Nanqing was startled for the same reason. He was even more startled because she seemed able to muster her martial power at the last moment!

How was it possible?

Youxue said coldly, "Is that the best you can do?"

Ximen Nanqing smirked coldly, "I have only used half of my martial power. Don't be too conceit yet. You are just an inferior celestial."

So this time he gave a martial shout and his martial power seemed to have increased tenfold!

He had vastly increased the martial power of his Dominating Aura!

As he stepped forward, the entire ground was trembling and he was leaving behind his footprints on the stony slabs!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was truly worried for Youxue now...

Youxue said coldly, "Good, you are serious now. I can be serious now as well."

Her hands began to turn a mesmerizing golden color and there was even a golden halo around her!

Ximen Nanqing was startled, "The Golden Invincible Skill. So you know the Golden Invincible Skill. No wonder you are so conceit. But that would not protect you from my Dominating Force!"

As he walked towards her, the entire air turned burning hot. Everything within twenty paces began to disintegrate or turn burning hot!

But as Xiao Youxue walked forward, everything within twenty paces of her began to either revert to normal or collapsed into ice!

Ximen Nanqing was stunned. He asked, "What type of skill is that?"

Youxue said coldly, "My Divine Emerald Skill."

She had used her Divine Emerald Skill as a shield through the sheer display of her internal strength and exudes her Icy Heavenly Tears!

Even as Ximen Nanqing walked within ten paces of her, he could sense a powerful martial force that was trying to suppress his Dominating Aura and pushing him backward.

He was surprised to find such an opponent in this place that could resist his highest epitome of his Dominating Aura.

With a martial shout, he displayed his Dominating Force on her!

Youxue was not slow. She quickly displayed her true martial power skill, the Divine Virtuous Force.

Once again, there was a thunderous impact as everything within one hundred paces of their fight shattered thunderously!

Once again, Ximen Nanqing was pushed back three steps backward!

He simply could not believe it as he panted heavily!

But before he could recover from the first blow, Youxue had raised her hand quietly at him once more!

He quickly raised his Dominating Force once more. This time round, he already knew better. Even though this maiden attacked casually, all her

attacks were imbued with her internal strength and martial power! He had never seen anyone that could muster their martial power in such a short notice and she could always retaliate with her full martial power until the last moment!

Again, there was a thunderous impact and everything within one hundred was completely destroyed once more!

This time, Ximen Nanqing was knocked back ten steps as he coughed out a mouthful of blood! He was in complete disbelief!

Youxue said coldly as she gently raised her foot forward, "You supposed to be more powerful when you are angry. Are you not angry now?"

As she raised her foot and tapped gently, the ground beneath her exploded with her martial force!

As she began to step forward, everything in front of her was destroyed or knocked aside causally by her martial force!

She was wasting her martial power and yet she had done so causally as though she was just taking a stroll!

This time, Ximen Nanqing raised both of his hands and attacked her once again with his Dominating Force!

This time round, Ximen Nanqing was surprised that he had struck her as he penetrated through her Divine Emerald Skill!

Immediately Youxue coughed a mouthful of blood but at the same time when he had struck her, she had also struck him and there was a cracking sound as seven bright lights flashed through!

When he had struck her, she remained motionless on the same spot but he was flung off twenty steps!

When the dust and cold bursting windforce had settled, Ximen Nanqing was crawling on the ground!

He could not believe that this maiden could penetrate through his Dominating Aura so effortless and even broke his ribs!

For the first time, he had known fear!

When he looked at her once again, he was truly terrified!

Everything around her had turned to ice, a golden halo had surrounded her and there were seven wisps of bluish lights around her.

Even the Stellar Heaven Fairy could not believe her eyes.

Youxue had quickly recovered from the attack that she had received from Ximen Nanqing. Her Golden Invincible Body was not only a defense skill; it was also a skill that could speed up recovery and healing. At the same time, her Divine Virtuous Skill was an offensive and a healing recovery skill while the Divine Emerald Skill was a protective skill that could lessen the impact of her opponent's martial force and speed.

As Youxue stepped forward, Ximen Nanqing was crawling backward in fear!

Youxue raised her foot and tapped gently on Ximen Nanqing's leg. Immediately there was a cracking sound as her martial power caused a martial force impact on him!

Ximen Nanqing yelled out painfully as he tried to crawl away frantically!

But Youxue raised her foot again. Immediately there was a loud explosion as the ground beneath her exploded thunderous!

She had missed of course.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy knew that she had missed deliberately and was playing with her prey!

She looked at Youxue and was really astonished as she thought, "Her martial skills and martial strength...surely it is unequalled in the Celestial Realm? How did she have so much martial strength that equaled to the most powerful celestials? Doesn't these required thousands of years of martial cultivation?"

She did not know that Xiao Youxue had a sad past and almost lost her life several times.

When Youxue was still a child, her mother had forced her to learn the

Icy Heavenly Tears with the Divine Virtuous Skill. Her own mother had lost her life attempting to combine both divine arts together so that she could at least have a start.

That was not all. She had even managed to learn the Golden Invincible Skill, something that even her father had failed to master.

Of course, in order to learn the Golden Invincible Skill and to increase her martial strength, she had to steal the Golden Rejuvenation Pills from her father. She had succeeded and had consumed three such Divine Pills. But that was not all; she had taken her a Divine Dragon Pill when she was at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains. That caused her already startling martial strength to increase tremendously.

Because of the effects of the two Divine Pills, she was able to muster her martial power in so short notice. In fact, other than the Penetrating Hands, she had no other attacking skills. So she began to practice both her internal strength and martial power skills to a level not seen by the other martial exponents.

After she had mustered those two arts, she finally found the confidence to take on the Celestial Fairy.

When she had become a celestial practitioner, her Divine State of Genesis had furthered awakened her, increasing her martial power even further!

Now that she had recovered from her internal injuries, her state of divinity had actually advanced further, enhancing both her internal strength and martial strength.

That was why her martial strength was actually above Ximen Nanqing!

Where the other maidens emphasized on techniques and divine skills for their offensives, Youxue had emphasized on her martial power and defensive skills. Ximen Nanqing biggest mistake was to engage her in a martial power contest!

Xiao Youxue broke Ximen Nanqing's arms as she said coldly, "You have lost so what do you have to say?"

Ximen Nanqing was whimpering in fear as he shivered frightening, “Monster...spare me...please...I begging you...”

Youxue caught hold of his wrist as he yelled painfully, saying coldly to him, “It is a pity that your internal strength isn’t compatible with my Divine Virtuous Force or else I will drain all your internal strength. Consider yourself lucky.”

Xiao Youxue said to the Stellar Heaven Fairy, “Sister, you can take your vengeance now. I have destroyed his Dominating Aura.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy looked at her quietly, “You can drain his internal strength?”

Youxue replied quietly, “Not entirely true. I just drain a little. I know that his Dominating Force is an epitome divine skill. I am just borrowing some of it to study it. I have found his secret chamber and saw his secret manuals on the Dominating Force. It seemed that he has not reached the highest level of his divine skill yet.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled, “You have actually found his secret chamber?”

Youxue looked sheepish.

In the past after she had left the Virtuous Palace, she had actually secretly accumulated a vast collection of martial skills and treasures. All her secrets, she had hidden with Lele’s baby daughter so that one day, she may be able to find her martial treasures.

Finding a secret chamber was too easy for her. The Virtuous Palace itself was like a huge labyrinth for her to practice her looting skills. While the other protégés of the Virtuous Palace was practicing their martial skills hard, she was forbidden to learn any martial skills by her father. That was when she began her explorations. She had even found some secret chambers that not even her father had known about it!

All of a sudden, Youxue said. “They are here!”

She turned to say to the Stellar Heaven Fairy, “I know that you do not have the heart to kill anyone...”

Before the Stellar Heaven Fairy could stop her, Youxue had stepped on Ximen Nanqing's head and broke his skull!

At this moment, the other maidens including the Universal Old Man had arrived at the courtyard. Only Yi Ping and Yixian were missing.

They were all startled to find the courtyard in a total shambles and to find a dead man in the courtyard!

And that dead man was actually Ximen Nanqing!

Lie Qing, Lele, Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng, Yu'E, Mei'Er and Yunzi looked at each other in bewilderment.

The Universal Old Man asked as he looked intently at Youxue and the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "What is going on here? Who kills him? Do you know that killing a celestial is detrimental to your future celestial progression and you can turn into a Dark Celestial? When that happens, you will have a hard time facing the Divine Wrath."

Youxue replied coldly, "An evil man like him, even if I see them again, I would not hesitate at all to kill again."

"Well said." A beautiful voice said.

They were all startled and turned around.

This time round, they were all stunned!

It was because the person that had said that was the Ascension Goddess!

But at the moment, she was clinging sweetly next to Yi Ping who was looking very pale.

That was not all.

Beside Yi Ping was Yixian, who was also clinging sweetly to him and she was looking idiocy at him!

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as the stares become hostile!

He said weakly, "I can explain..."

Lingfeng said quietly and she was almost to tears, "You better explain,

as clearly as possible...”

Lie Qing said quietly, “Ping’Er, did you...and them...?”

Lele said tearfully, “Ping’Er, you are so daring. You have actually brought her into your room!”

Yunzi was smiling...

The Universal Old Man quickly said, “This is your family affairs. I don’t want to get involved. Let me excuse myself first...”

Shen Xingyue said coldly, “No, you are staying.”

The Universal Old Man asked panicky, “Why?”

Shen Xingyue smiled wryly, “You are his protégé master. You have to take responsible.”

The Universal Old Man was startled as he took a step backward.

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly and said shyly, “My protégé sister, Xingyue...how are you?”

Shen Xingyue said, “It seems that we have an unfinished fight, am I right to say so?”

The Ascension Goddess stole a shy look at Yi Ping before she said quietly, “I surrender...state your terms...I give in to anything except him...”

Chapter 92: The Secrets of the Heavenness

Youxue had led everyone to a secret martial chamber that was hidden behind the garden of the palace residence. From the looks of it, it had not been used for many years. What was astonishing about this secret martial chamber was that there was an extremely concealed secret chamber underneath!

Yi Ping muttered, "Youxue, how did you manage to find something as conceal as this? I am really astonished by your ability!"

Youxue was delighted that Yi Ping was praising her in front of the other maidens.

Yunzi was smiling at her while Lele was kicking the walls of the passageway while muttering softly, "This doesn't make any sense at all. There is a conceal panel within a panel..."

Youxue looked at Yi Ping tenderly. If Yixian and the Ascension Goddess were not clinging to him intimately at the moment, she would have flown into his embrace and asked him shyly, "Really? I did well?"

But when she saw how intimate Yixian and the Ascension Goddess was beside him, she just said shyly, "There are more surprises inside."

Yi Ping was really curious and he was walked beside her, smiling at her. "Then you must quickly show me! From the looks of it, I think even Ximen Nanqing is not aware of this secret passage!"

Shen Xingyue nodded, "indeed..."

She was secretly looking at Youxue, Yixian and the Ascension Goddess. For the first time, she was envy of them.

Even Lie Qing was resigning softly to herself and was wondering what was going on!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was still startled that the all-powerful Ximen Nanqing was actually dead now. She was still in disbelief that a lower celestial could actually defeat a golden celestial!

Lingfeng was quiet.

It was not because she was envious but because she was thinking of her future with Yi Ping! Before she was aware that she was the incarnation of the Heaveness, she had already liked him and even her first kiss was given to him.

But even if she was the Heaveness, does it really matter to her?

When she was the Heaveness, she dreamed every day that she could be an ordinary mortal. She wished she was able to lead a carefree life, got married and had a family. That was because she knew that her next tribulation was the Heavenly Wrath. The Heavenly Wrath would only occur to the Celestials who had reached the final Celestial Stage. And her Heavenly Wrath which was to be her tenth was already her limit and she would surely perish unless she could find a way to ascend.

That was why together with the Universal Old Man and the Great Sage Lord, they had taken a huge gambit to find a way to the lower realm to look for the final clue to ascend to the God Realm.

They were all struck in the final stage; somehow the final path for the transmigration of the Gods' Realm had been blocked. According to all their calculations and knowledge, there should be a final ascension. Unless they could find a way to transmigrate to the God Realm, eventually they would all be destroyed by their heavenly tribulation for it would only grow increasingly powerful as it increased by a fold each time.

However when she had returned to the lower realm, she started to develop nostalgic for the realm that she had come into. In the past as the Heaveness and also an Ancient Celestial, she did not need to fear the Divine Calamity. She was never a celestial practitioner in the first place and she and her kind was supreme in the lower realm till they successfully transmigrate to the Celestial Realm.

In the Celestial Realm, the Ancient Celestials and the Golden Celestials that had successfully transmigrated from the lower realm were at the mercies of the Divine Wrath and the Heavenly Wrath.

Because she had missed the lower realm and would rather destroy her

attainment, she discovered something that no one else knew about or had long forgotten when she regained her knowledge as the Heaviness.

As Heaviness if she were to remain in the lower realm, she was virtually immortal and did not need to transmigrate to the Celestial Realm or to the God Realm to seek immortality!

It was because with her attainment, she did not need to face any Divine Calamity at all!

She had a sudden thought then, "Is the different realm related to the state of divinity? What if the God Realm has an even more fearsome heavenly tribulation? If I were to return to the Celestial Realm, my state of divinity may not be able to grasp the full mysteries of the Heavenly Wrath and my cycle of Heavenly Wrath will begin anew again. Since I have previously been to the Celestial Realm and back, my state of divinity will now virtually render me an immortal in the lower realm. And because I had destroyed my old body, I was able to stop the Heavenly Wrath from happening..."

By a coincident, she had become an immortal should she stay in the lower realm, free from any Divine Calamity, Divine Wrath and the Heavenly Wrath that faced the celestial practitioners.

However, she knew that Yi Ping and the rest of her sisters were only mortals and that they must transmigrate in order to escape the Divine Calamity.

It was because the odds of passing through all seven celestial divinities were really low. Most celestial practitioners would not be able to survive the arduous tribulations. Even though the rest of her sisters were formerly celestial practitioners, they had all completely taken a new path now.

Moreover, the odds of surviving a Divine Calamity stacked against them, especially to Yixian the Celestial Fairy. Unlike the others, Yixian had to face the Divine Wrath which only happened to the celestials in the Celestial Realm. It was because she was too powerful and her state of divinity was too astonishing that a normal Divine Calamity would not

have affected her much. She had survived one narrowly when she had first awakened but there was no assurance that she could survive her second Divine Wrath.

For the sake of Yi Ping and the other sisters, she chose to keep silence on her immortality and even agreed to guide them to the Celestial Realm with the Cosmos Stellar Formation which she had learnt in the Stellar Sanctuary.

It was because she knew that if they would be able to reach the Celestial Realm, they would not be affected by any heavenly tribulations until they had become a Golden Celestial. So they would slowly cultivate at their leisure.

It was because the heavenly tribulations in the Celestial Realm only affected the Ancient Celestials and the Golden Celestials!

However because there was no Divine Calamity in the Celestial Realm, there was no way for the mortals in the Celestial Realm to become a celestial practitioner either!

Only the mortals in the lower realm could be a celestial practitioner!

But maybe deep in her heart, she was still curious to find out the secrets of the Stellar Sanctuary and that was also the reason why she was back in the Celestial Realm. She had guessed that the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos had previously returned to the lower realm to seek the Universal Force for eventual ascension to the God Realm.

It was because the Universal Force could only occur in the lower realm and it was the most powerful primeval force in the entire universe and extremely difficult to find or even seen in the lower realm itself. However, she knew that the Heavenly Earth Sword contained vestiges of the Universal Force and that was made the Ultimate Celestial Star Formation so deadly.

And the elusive Heavenly Earth Sword had reappeared from the heavens when Yixian the Celestial Fairy was facing her Divine Wrath, enabling her to overcome it and awakened as a celestial practitioner.

Was Yixian the one that could unravel the secrets of the Stellar Sanctuary and was the one that was destined to be an immortal?

Or was it Yi Ping?

Or the Holy Ascension Sect? While she was still the Heaveness, she had aided many celestial practitioners to avert their Divine Calamities. Among them were the celestial practitioners of the Ascension Sect. She was curious about the Celestial Dual Progression of the Ascension Sect. She had already noticed that the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddesses were already at the final celestial level but it seemed that something was preventing them from the final ascension.

Finally, a grateful elder of the Ascension Sect revealed to her some of the secrets of the Celestial Dual Progression of the Ascension Sect. In order to ascend, they required their own divine weapons and they followed an entirely different celestial path from the other celestial practitioners. It was said that an immortal being or a highly attained celestial had left behind this celestial cultivation method. This celestial cultivation method was arduous and extremely difficult to attain and had an unknown purpose once they were in the Celestial Realm.

If Lingfeng did not guess incorrectly, the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue were supposed to be counterparts for the Celestial Dual Progression as well.

Even though she was intrigued by the God Realm, it was in the past. She was still the same Lingfeng that loved Yi Ping with all her heart. By any accords, it only enforced her desire to lead an ordinary life.

She knew that she had lost the innocence that she had when she had first met Yi Ping. She became aware that she had serious contenders and all of the maidens were also vying for his attentions. She was suddenly shy and she was even thinking, "This is so embarrassing. I have never expected to find the Universal Old Man so soon. Now I have to maintain the cover of my Heaveness self or he will surely tell all the other celestials what he has known about me..."

Her thoughts were quickly interrupted by Yi Ping who asked Youxue,

“Xue’Er, this passageway to be in disused for a long time. These recent footprints that are in front are made by you?”

Even though the passageway was quite dim and the light from the torches were flickering wildly but Yi Ping who had cleared all his meridian channels were able to see clearly in the darkness.

At this moment, Youxue turned around and laughed softly. “If Brother Ping can’t recognize my footprints then I will surely be very upset.”

When Yi Ping caught her mesmerizing laughs and had eye contact with her, he began to fluster. It was because he could sniff her light fragrant and it was intoxicating to him; it was because he was still suffering from the aftereffect of the Forget Affections Wine that caused his willpower to falter. Moreover, Youxue was really a mesmerizing maiden that could stop people in their tracks when she had removed her veil.

Yi Ping thought, “If she isn’t always enveloping herself in her coldness, it is not hard for men to fall into her charms...”

All of a sudden, Youxue fell into his embrace as she gasped aloud!

Youxue asked panicky, “Xue’Er, what is wrong?!”

Lele answered for Youxue, “There are rats in this passageway...”

But she was secretly thinking, “I am also afraid of rats too but at the moment, there are no rats in sight yet and she already taken the opportunity to jump into his embrace. Because she has already used this trick once, it will be so embarrassing for me to use it later...”

Therefore she suppressed her fear.

She was not the only ones that were thinking of the same. Yu’Er, Mei’Er and even Lie Qing were also thinking the same as her!

Youxue was blushing when she was in Yi Ping’s embrace as she nodded shyly, “That’s right...”

When Yi Ping caught hold of her soft body, he was starting to nosebleed again. It was because he had suddenly recalled that Xue’Er was the Endor Vixen Fairy previously and that the White Sage had lost his chastity to

her. He had also recalled how he had violated Yixian and the Ascension Goddess at the same time much earlier...

Now that he had recalled this, he could feel the burning heat of the Forget Affection Wine was stirring up again. He quickly tried to suppress it with his Absolute Spirits Heart Intricacy but because Xue'Er was hugging him tightly, he found himself grabbing her waist tightly.

Youxue gasped when Yi Ping had suddenly put his arm around her and she was flustered as her heart began to beat rapidly!

She had realized that she was suddenly in his embrace and it seemed that time had stood still for them. In that instant, she had forgotten that the Universal Old Man, Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, the Ascension Goddess, Shen Xingyue, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Yunzi and Lingfeng were all watching them with envy.

The Universal Old Man was sighing softly but no one knew what he was thinking about.

Lingfeng whispered softly to him, "Old man, if you are having mortal thoughts then you have better not forget that you are a celestial."

Even though her voice was soft, Yi Ping and Youxue had heard it aloud and reluctantly separated from each other.

But as soon as they had separated from each other, Yixian and the Ascension Goddess were besides Yi Ping as they looked shyly at him!

Yixian said gently and was full of concern when she saw his nosebleed, "Ping'Er, are you alright? Your nose is bleeding now..."

The Ascension Goddess smiled gently, "I think..."

She stole a glance at Youxue before adding, "I think he still needs our care later. The effect of the Forget Affection Wine has not yet been totally purged out yet."

Yi Ping was flustering and he did not know what to say.

All of a sudden, he had thought of something and he quickly changed the topic. "Xue'Er, can I ask you something?"

Youxue smiled at the attention that Yi Ping had given her and asked, “Yes, Brother Ping?”

Yi Ping asked solemnly, “When we got to the scene, Ximen Nanqing was already dead. How did you and the Stellar Heaven Fairy defeat someone as formidable as him?”

This was something that had been bothering him!

It was because Ximen Nanqing was a super exponent. Even if he could not overcome a strong opponent, surely he could still be able to flee?

Youxue said melancholy, “I was already at the brink of exhaustion and if he could persist a little longer, I wouldn’t have defeated him. He was trying to defeat us as soon as possible and tried to match me with his martial power and he had underestimated my ability to resist. If he was more caution then he wouldn’t be in that sorry state. In short, he was being impatient.”

That was the truth. Ximen Nanqing was used to being a Domain Lord for a long time and the instant he had met resistance from an inferior opponent, he had totally lost his cool. In a fight, the ability to keep cool was an important factor to determine the eventual winner.

Even though Xiao Youxue was able to use the Divine Virtuous Force, the Golden Invincible Body and the Divine Emerald Skill at the same time, the effort to maintain these three divine skills were considerable and she could only maintain it briefly. Moreover, she had to reserve her entire martial power for her offensive!

If Ximen Nanqing had paused to think for a while and used a delaying tactic, he would not have met his end so tragically!

Yi Ping nodded as he said in praise of her, “I really wish I could arrive earlier to witness such an earthshaking fight but the most important thing is that you are alright...”

Lingfeng could not resist a tease on him as she smiled alluringly, “But I am sure you are doing something even more important at that moment.”

Yi Ping began to fluster and even Yixian and the Ascension Goddess

lowered their heads shyly away.

Youxue suddenly said, "Here! We have reached!"

She tapped and pushed a brick that was part of the wall. Immediately, there was a loud rumbling sound as the walls in front of them opened as it revealed a big chamber inside!

The chamber was vast and airy. Inside were many artefacts, books and scrolls that were covered with dust.

Immediately, the group walked inside and as they started to look around.

Everyone except for Yi Ping and Youxue immediately started to explore the chamber excitedly!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy muttered, "I have been in this place for a long time yet I do not know that such a secret passage has actually existed."

Yi Ping was not interested in the artefacts or the secret martial knowledge that was in here so he asked Youxue, "Xue'Er, you mention that you have something interesting to show us but what it is? I see nothing but old books and..."

Lingfeng could not resist a chuckle as she leaned against a wall and her alluring soft laughs were infectious.

Immediately, the rest of the maidens except for the Universal Old Man, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess were left wondering why all the maidens were suddenly laughing so merrily!

Yi Ping began to fluster deeply.

The Ascension Goddess asked curiously as she looked at everyone before looking at Yixian for an answer, "What is so funny?"

Yixian stole a glance at Yi Ping quietly but she did not say anything. After all, she did not want to criticize her husband publicly in front of everyone.

Yu'Er walked to the Stellar Heaven Fairy while Mei'Er walked to the Ascension Goddess as they whispered silently to them. Almost

immediately, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess were laughing so jovially that they had tears in their eyes!

The Universal Old Man was now extremely curious as he asked, “Can anyone tell me what is so funny? I want to know?”

Lele laughed softly, “If you tell me one or two of your intricate heart formulas, then I may consider telling you.”

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly, “May consider only? Hurry and tell me. I am really curious or I can’t sleep tonight!”

Lele hummed coldly, “Never!”

The Universal Old Man could only smile bitterly.

But everyone seemed to ignore the Universal Old Man completely!

Yi Ping tried to salvage the awkward moment by asking, “Xue’Er, you say you have something to show to me?”

Yi Ping naturally knew why the maidens were secretly laughing. It was because he was almost illiterate. When he had mentioned there were nothing but old books around, Lingfeng could not suppress her laughs anymore. These books and scrolls were obviously very precious to the martial practitioners and were of great value but to Yi Ping who could not read, it was worthless in his eyes!

Youxue nodded excitedly, “Brother Ping, look at the contents of this scroll. Do you think that this posture is very similar to the Dominating Force?”

When Yi Ping took a look, he remarked excitedly. “I think this is indeed the secret manual of the Dominating Force!”

But he soon said, “It is unwise to learn new martial skills. Every school has their advantages and disadvantages. Moreover, the heart intricacy formula of all the formidable divine skills often clashed with each other. Greed doesn’t pay when it comes to martial progression...”

The Universal Old Man approved of it as he said wisely, “That’s right! I am glad that my protégé knows about this and can resist this temptation

which has actually caused the downfall of many practitioners.”

But obviously Youxue and the rest of the maidens were not paying any attention to Yi Ping or the Universal Old Man as they crowded around the many martial scrolls.

Lie Qing was startled as she looked at Yunzi and Youxue, “Why is that the second half of this scroll has the same exact posture as the Invincible Divine Force?”

Yunzi was also startled as she said thoughtfully, “Can it be that the Dominating Force and the Invincible Divine Force share the same root before it got branched off?”

Lie Qing nodded, “There is a possibility...I wonder who is the owner of this place and where he is now?”

Lingfeng had took a quick look around and she was suddenly very solemn, “This place is the meditating chamber of an Ancient Celestial...”

The Universal Old Man had picked up some scrolls and he was saying excitedly, “The name of that Ancient Celestial is the Astrology Sage. He used to be our rival and always vying with us whenever the Stellar Sanctuary has appeared. This star charts...”

Lingfeng began to examine the star charts when all of a sudden, she exclaimed excitedly, “These constellation markings...I have recognized it. These were all the locations when the Stellar Sanctuary had previously appeared!”

The Universal Old Man was excited as well, “Indeed! I am wondering why that old fellow is always one step ahead of us! That is because he could actually predict the next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Lingfeng nodded excitedly and her eyes shone, “The Stellar Sanctuary only appears briefly. With our current state of divinity, we can forecast the next timing of its appearance but there is no way we can know its exact location. This star chart may be able to gain us sufficient time to unravel the mysteries of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Yi Ping was delighted to hear that as he said, “This is most excellent. I

am honestly curious about the Stellar Sanctuary. Lingfeng, when you are free, can you explain what exactly is the Stellar Sanctuary? I don't understand how it is able to fade out of sight and only reappeared every few centuries? This is really a most bewildering thing!"

The Universal Old Man was suddenly solemn, "Unfortunately even with my celestial knowledge, I can't understand any of the markings on this star chart."

Lingfeng was solemn too, "Neither did I..."

All of a sudden, Yu'Er exclaimed aloud. "These symbols on the Celestial Star Chart are arranged like harmonics..."

Mei'Er was excited too, "I think I may be able to decipher it!"

Everyone was startled.

Yi Ping said excitedly, "Mei'Er, you can really decipher it?"

Mei'Er winked at him, "I will definitely try!"

Chapter 93: The Celestial Star Chart

The Celestial Star Chart was large, measuring five metres width by three metres in height.

Yu'Er and Mei'Er carefully laid it on a large table that was in the chamber as they examined the map carefully.

They quickly got into the act by tossing bronze coins rapidly on the table and rapidly arranging them together with their slender fingers.

Yi Ping was completely mesmerized by them as he observed their intense expressions and sparking eyes.

All of a sudden, he was a little startled.

It was because he had always regarded Yu'Er and Mei'Er as little sisters to be protected.

He knew well enough how they had felt towards him but it was precisely for the same reason that he did not want to hurt them that he had never for once looked directly at them.

But today, he was suddenly aware that standing in front of him were two mesmerizing and sensual maiden in black translucent velvet dresses. They were extremely beautiful and their expressions were sharp and brilliant!

He had never seen them in this perspective before!

His heart was suddenly pounding hard as he watched them quietly...

All of a sudden, Lingfeng stepped on his foot and he was freed from his stupor. He asked, "Lingfeng, why do you step me for?"

Lingfeng smiled alluringly at him and she whispered with her Great Whispering Skill, "You! You are as bad and lecherous as that Nangong Le!"

Yi Ping was startled, "I..."

Lingfeng had secretly linked the Great Emptiness Translucence Skill with him, so she was able to sense his emotions. However, this was

something that she did not want to reveal to him. It was because if Yi Ping knew that the Great Emptiness Translucence had this affinity linking, he could also block her as well. But if he did not know, then there was no way for him to know this little secret unless he could reach the epitome of the Great Emptiness Translucence Skill!

Yu'Er said breathlessly as though she was afraid of losing her focus while she was still rearranging the bronze coins seemingly in a patterned manner, "Surely this Astrologer Sage must be a highly accomplished musician. These harmonic patterns are according to the fifth, seventh pitches and this is arranged to the ninth harmonics. I am accomplished only to the seventh harmonics but all I can do now is to try my best."

Mei'Er too gasped breathlessly as her eyes were everywhere on the Celestial Star Chart, "Sister, tell me if that is correct. This patterned sign here is the clue to the eighth harmonics?"

Yu'Er took a quick look before she exclaimed excitedly, "That may be! Let's us try it!"

They began to reach out frantically with their nimble fingers on the map as they encircled the table at the same time, totally oblivious to everyone.

Yi Ping was not the only one in awe. The rest of the maidens were dazzled by their dazzling deciphering speed!

Even the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess who were also highly gifted in music were in awe.

The Ascension Goddess muttered, "In the past, the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddesses were said to be geniuses in mathematics and music. If I didn't see it today with my own eyes, I cannot believe it..."

Yi Ping was startled as he asked, "But they are not, am I right?"

The Ascension Goddess smiled mysteriously, "You never know. They have extremely high attainment and are one of the first Ascendants members."

She winked at Shen Xingyue and said, "I didn't see my dear protégé

sister for just a hundred over years and her attainment is now on par with me.”

Shen Xingyue shifted uncomfortably without saying anything.

Yi Ping asked, “Just over a hundred years? Shouldn’t that be over a thousand years?”

The Ascension Goddess said solemnly, “Just over a hundred years.”

Even Shen Xingyue was surprised, “Really? I know for sure you have ascended over a thousand years ago!”

The Ascension Goddess smiled, “My protégé sister, you may not know this but time passes differently in the Celestial Realm than the Mortal Realm.”

Everyone except for the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man expressed astonishment.

Lingfeng explained calmly, “One year in the Celestial Realm is actually equivalent to ten years in the Mortal Realm.”

The Ascension Goddess stole a glance at Yu’Er and Mei’Er before saying, “The Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddesses have been in the Mortal Realm for millenniums. You can imagine their level of divinity and attainment.”

Yi Ping also stole a glance at Yu’Er and Mei’Er who were completely focused on deciphering the Celestial Star Chart. He was amazed that they could do so without being distracted by their conversations. But he also knew that the intricacy heart formula of the Eternal Ice Palace was the Emotionless Rhyme and was one of the most focused heart intricacy skill in the martial fraternity.

But at the same time, Yi Ping was sighing softly.

Lele’s expressions were melancholy and she was clenching her hands to her bosoms.

It was because they were both thinking of the same thing. Their daughter must be around four years old now if that was the case and they had missed the most important period of her young life.

Yi Ping thought regretfully, “Hopefully one day we are able to have a reunion together as a family but I will rather that you stay on the Mortal Realm and lead an ordinary life.”

At this moment, he did not yet know that his daughter was a born Celestial and would not be affected by the Divine Calamity and was destined to ascend to the Celestial Realm. But that was another story for now.

Lingfeng and the Ascension Goddess were affected by Yi Ping’s downhearted thoughts but they did not know what to say to him.

All of a sudden, the Ascension Goddess tried to cheer him up as she smiled shyly. “Yi Ping, how come you have never tried to ask for my name?”

Indeed Yi Ping was immediately distracted as he stammered under the graceful gaze of her enthralling smile, “I...aren’t you the Ascension Goddess?”

He had only known her briefly so he never had the opportunity to know her real name. And the truth was, they had start off as enemies!

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, “I am sure everyone knows my celestial name by now. But you don’t want to know your future wife name?”

Yi Ping was suddenly flustering.

Lele said coolly, “What future wife? You still have to ask us if we permit you to do so. Don’t you forget that we still have an unfinished fight? Why are we letting a spy and an enemy into this chamber?”

Yunzi tried to hold her back but Lele broke free of her and had stepped forward with a defensive stance.

Yixian immediately said, “Lele, calm down please. She...I...she is one of us now...”

Not only Lele, Lie Qing and Shen Xingyue had also stepped forward!

Lie Qing said coldly, “Anyone that tries to hurt Lele will have to fight

me as well!"

Shen Xingyue added coldly, "It seems someone forget to bring her divine sword and is addressing us with disdain."

Yixian, Youxue, Yunzi, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Lingfeng looked at each other, not knowing what to do. By right, they should aid Lele, Lie Qing and Shen Xingyue but they also knew that the Ascension Goddess seemed to have an attachment to Yi Ping and was just upset that she was being challenged.

So unless a real fight had occurred, then they would act.

The Ascension Goddess arranged her white and gold dress as she addressed them with an arrogant smirk, "Divine sword or no, I have already become one with the sword. I do not require a divine sword to fight juniors like you. You can all come for me at the same time. It is my pleasure to teach you all a painful lesson and for being disrespectful to me!"

She took a quick look at Yi Ping shyly before saying coolly to her challengers, "And the only one that is going to duo celestial with Yi Ping is me."

This raised the eyebrows of Yixian and Youxue who had immediately stepped forward at the same time too!

The Ascension Goddess said, "Good! Every harem has a pecking order. We shall determine the new hierarchy then with our martial skills!"

Youxue said coldly, "And only the top in the ranking will be allowed to duo celestial with Ping'Er then!"

Yi Ping was panicky as he quickly said, "There is no need for a real fight. I am not going to duo celestial with anyone..."

But he was completely ignored by the maidens as they stared intensely at each other!

The Universal Old Man was also pleading aloud, "All these martial treasures and artefacts, all these martial treasures and artefacts..."

He was panicky and was now grabbing as many scrolls as possible!

Shen Xingyue said coolly, "There must be a number one, a number two and a number three. We cannot delay this inevitable anymore."

Even Yunzi was secretly agreeing with her, "Even though we are all close sisters and have a mutual respect for each other but still, there have to be an order. I may not lose. After all, I am also a celestial practitioner now..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was secretly excited, "I can be included too?"

Perhaps Yixian the Celestial Fairy knew what everyone was thinking so she said gently, "Everyone today have an opportunity to prove their martial skills and to determine their positions in this new hierarchy. I am Yi Ping's first wife and I don't mind that we determine the new hierarchy in this manner."

Now that Yixian had announced it, all the maidens were excited except for Yu'Er and Mei'Er who were still engrossed in deciphering the Celestial Star Chart in this huge chamber. They were all secretly looking at each other and forming secret alliances at the same time.

Even the Ascension Goddess was secretly looking at Shen Xingyue who nodded lightly and they seemed to have already reached a secret agreement to defeat the other maidens first!

But of course, most of the maidens' primary target was still the Ascension Goddess because she was the most powerful and threatening in the group!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy laughed softly as she looked at Lele, Yixian and Yixian, "I may be your protégé mistress but you don't have to be polite to me. After all, I am a Golden Celestial in my own right."

Lele smiled bitterly as she looked at Lie Qing uncomfortably.

Even though the Stellar Heaven Fairy was warning them not to be soft on her but she was also warning them subtly that she was their protégé mistress!

Therefore they should not initiate an attack on her first as it was an extremely sacrilegious act!

Yixian was completely emotionless; her entire focus was on all the slightest movements of her opponents. She had rarely allowed herself to be distracted in a fight and her dignity did not allow for failures. She was determined to claim her rightful position as Yi Ping's first wife!

Youxue and Yunzi had known each other since childhood. Therefore they were natural allies!

Youxue's protégé mistress was Yixian the Celestial Fairy so naturally she could not attack her unless she had no other choice.

Yunzi other close sister was Lie Qing. Therefore she would never initiate an attack against her.

In this complex relationship, the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue were the most obvious targets to bring down as they were also two of the most powerful exponents!

Except that they had all forgotten one thing. Lingfeng who was keeping quiet was an Ancient Celestial and potentially a powerful exponent!

Everyone had forgotten about her except for the Ascension Goddess!

The Ascension Goddess looked at Lingfeng as she smiled, "I know that you are an Ancient Celestial. Surely as one of the oldest celestial around, you are not weak. Why don't you tell me your celestial name so that I can know who you are? After all, we are soon going to be close sisters. Am I not right to say so?"

Lingfeng smiled weakly as the attentions of the other maidens had shifted to her!

But now that the Ascension Goddess had brought everyone's attention to her, she was now in the limelight!

Lingfeng smiled alluringly while ignoring Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man who were pleading for everyone to stop fighting and to withdraw their fighting stances.

Everyone was now looking at Lingfeng and was waiting for her to say something.

Yi Ping raised his voice, "There are no reasons for you to fight. Alas! This is really so meaningless..."

Lingfeng smiled and said sweetly, "That's right. There is no need to fight. Ping'Er, don't you worry. They are not for real. None of them dare to make the first move. They are taunting each other."

The Ascension Goddess hummed coldly, "Who says I dare not?"

Among the maidens, Lingfeng's intellect was also the most brilliant. She concluded that the maiden that made the first attack would not only be attacked by the other maidens and would also displease Yi Ping. Moreover, there are many martial treasures in this huge chamber and none of the maidens were blind.

The solution was to find them an opportunity to back off without a loss to their dignity.

So she said softly, "Since we are going to be sisters soon, I may as well tell you my celestial name. I am the...Heaveness."

The Ascension Goddess immediately stumbled and she took a step backward but she quickly recovered her composure.

She took a quick glance at Shen Xingyue who nodded at her.

The Ascension Goddess knew that Shen Xingyue could not lie to her or else it was impossible for her to reach her current level of divinity.

So she could only ask the obvious, "Are you really the Heaveness?"

Lingfeng nodded and said gently, "That's right. There is only one Heaveness in the Celestial Realm and that's me."

Even though the Ascension Goddess was already expecting the answer, she was still astonished. "You are really the Heaveness? One of the seven most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm?"

She muttered to herself, "No wonder, she isn't affected by my despairing aura even when she has no divine weapon in her hands."

Lingfeng the Heaveness nodded and she pointed at the Universal Old Man who was stroking his long beard, "And he is the Universal Old Man."

The Ascension Goddess was truly startled. Like the Heaveness, The Universal Old Man was also one of the seven most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm and she was actually in their presence without knowing who they were? She did not believe it when Yi Ping had told her that the Universal Old Man was his protégé master...

The Heaveness was a legendary celestial in the Mortal Realm and was extremely mysterious. No one knew who she was and her celestial clan of origin. Before she had ascended, she had already heard of her but had never seen her.

But after she had ascended, she was startled to discover that the Heaveness was one of the seven most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm as well. She began to wonder how it was possible for her to be in two realms at the same time!

Millennium years ago during the golden age of the Celestial Realm which was also called the Golden Era, the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation had suddenly appeared.

It was an earthshaking event that had caught everyone by surprise. It was because the Stellar Sanctuary and the mysterious Astronomic Stellar Formation had descended upon the Celestial Realm, igniting a race for its secrets!

This event gave the celestials that were already at the epitome levels the first clue that the Gods' Realm had indeed existed and all the celestials were determined to be the first one to be able to transmigrate to the new realm.

During the flurry to unravel the mysteries of the two dimensional places, the Celestials fought among themselves. Overnight, entire celestial clans were annihilated and new alliances were formed!

The Stellar Sanctuary was actually a tower that measured hundreds of miles wide and its height reached to the clouds. The walls of the Stellar Sanctuary were indestructible and there was only a single entrance.

According to rumors, there were supposedly a hundred levels in the Stellar Sanctuary and each level was fraught with deadly traps and hidden dangers.

As for the Astronomic Stellar Formation, it was surrounded by deadly mist and whirling vortexes. Only the most courageous dare to venture deep into the Astronomic Stellar Formation. If the Stellar Sanctuary was impossibly large, the Astronomic Stellar Formation that had appeared next to the Stellar Sanctuary was impossible to gauge; it enveloped through hundreds of mountain peaks, extinguishing all life that was within the Astronomic Stellar Formation!

The seven most powerful celestials had not only survived the dangers of the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation, they had also returned with many unknown artefacts and secrets.

Out of the tens of thousands celestials, less than a thousand had survived and none of them dared to venture as deep as the seven most powerful celestials.

The Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation only appeared for a brief period of time; exactly three months!

The Celestial Realm was vast. Each time the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation had appeared, its location seemed to be totally random.

To the celestials, time was really precious. They had to wrestle with lost time traveling across the Celestial Realm to find the exact appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation; they also had to overcome the intrigues of the celestials from the entire Celestial Realm!

In the entire history of the Celestial Realm, these two mysterious places had only appeared five times!

Since then, all the celestial clans and celestials had devoted considerable efforts to divine the next appearance of these two mysterious places; no one wanted to lose the opportunity to explore the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation!

The vast majority of the celestials of the Celestial Realm had never seen the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation. These two places were so dangerous that each time it had appeared, more and more of the Ancient Celestials perished in the attempt to unravel deeper into the mystery.

Just as Yi Ping was heaving in relief that the tensions between the maidens seemed to have cool off drastically, Yu'Er began to say excitedly. "There! We have it!"

Mei'Er announced breathlessly, "If we are not wrong, then the next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary is at the Unmoving Mountains!"

The Ascension Goddess was startled as she gave a startled cry, "The Holy Ascension Sect is at the peak of the Unmoving Mountains..."

Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man exchanged glances with each other as they muttered excitedly at the same time, "The Unmoving Mountains!"

When Yi Ping saw their expressions, he had a bad feeling about it as he smiled bitterly, "Don't tell me we are really going there? I don't even know what sort of a place is the Stellar Sanctuary..."

Lingfeng laughed softly, "What do you want to know? I will tell you."

The Universal Old Man clapped his hands as he roared with laughter, "We have always wasted so much time searching and running towards it. I have even missed it once. When I have reached there, I almost got killed by the many hostile celestials in the area. Finally I have three full months of time to explore the Stellar Sanctuary!"

The Ascension Goddess snapped her fingers as she said excitedly, "No, we don't. We are going to the Astronomic Stellar Formation first!"

The Universal Old Man was unhappy, "I have been there once and I never want to go there again. Trust me, there is nothing of interest there compared to the Stellar Sanctuary. I have almost broken through to the thirty level of the Stellar Sanctuary. Every thirty levels supposedly hide a startling secret..."

Lingfeng quickly stepped him as she shook her head.

The Universal Old Man was flustered as he kept quiet.

But Lele asked, "Old Man, every thirty levels there is a secret? Why did you keep quiet for?"

Shen Xingyue asked, "What are you hiding?"

But the Universal Old Man stubbornly refused to say a word!

Lingfeng looked at the Ascension Goddess before she said quietly, "It is not that we are unwillingly to tell you. We pay for this secret with our lives and the lives of our companions..."

The Universal Old Man was trembling and there was a shred of tear at the corner of his eyes!

Lingfeng continued, "The Holy Ascension Sect is right in the middle of the Unmoving Mountains and they have a big advantage over the rest of the celestial clans. I can't say if that is a good or bad thing for now. But it seems that we can't trust anyone from the Holy Ascension Sect. We have been betrayed more than once even by the most honorable of the celestials. There are no one that we can trust so readily now."

The Ascension Goddess pointed at Shen Xingyue, Yu'E and Mei'Er, "You don't trust me or you don't trust everyone from the Holy Ascension Sect? What do I need to do to make you trust me?"

Lingfeng looked coldly at her before she said, "There is a way. Only if you are willing to duo celestial with Yi Ping, then I have no doubt that you are not a spy."

All the other maidens began to gasp aloud with shock.

The Ascension Goddess was flustered as she replied shyly, "I...I am willing. Why not?"

Chapter 94: The Tranquil City

The grand hall of the Tranquil City was full of Celestials and they were not entirely friendly. They had come from all over the Celestial Realm. Some had come upon learning the death of Domain Lord Ximen Nanqing and to seek vengeance for him, some had come to challenge the new Domain Lord, some had come to learn who the new Domain Lord was and some had come out of curiosity.

Regardless of their exact reasons, they had a pretext today; to attend the grand wedding of the new Domain Lord of the Tranquil City!

To the utter surprise of the Celestials, the new Domain Lord did not stop them from entering the city and had actually invited them into the wedding hall.

Quite a few of the Celestials had been curious on the identity of the new Domain Lord who called himself Yi Ping, a name that no one had ever heard before until recently!

Naturally these lofty Celestials were not the types that would adhere to any rules and many had actually tried to sneak into the palace ground of the Tranquil City.

However, they were startled to encounter a formidable celestial formation and they were repulsed by the formidable masked Celestials that were within the palace grounds! These intruders did not persist in fighting against the guardians for they did not know how formidable the new Domain Lord was and did not want to take any risk.

But today when they saw the new Domain Lord, they were all startled!

A young man with an awe inspiring righteous air had stepped into the grand hall with an old man beside him. He was wearing white and his entourage was equally stunning; eleven alluring maidens walked into view which immediately caused the entire hall to become completely silent!

These maidens were all extremely beautiful and moving but they were all obviously Celestials except for Lingfeng. But some experienced

Celestials were already cautious of Lingfeng as they immediately suspected that with her air of confidence, she might well be an Ancient Celestial!

But regardless if they were Golden Celestials or Ancient Celestials, they were comparable in their strengths and had to undergo nine heavenly tribulations known as the Divine Wrath before facing the ultimate tribulation known as the Heavenly Wrath.

The nine heavenly tribulations were also known as the Thousand Year Calamity, occurring once every thousand years with majority of the Celestials perishing in the first and the second heavenly tribulations!

Therefore, this ordinary looking maiden could be at least a Sixth Tier Ancient Celestial! It was because only a Sixth Tier Ancient Celestial and above could take on the appearance of the Golden Celestials or as mortals.

Even though the Ancient Celestials had been in the Celestial Realm much longer than the Golden Celestials, the Golden Celestials were not less powerful than the Ancient Celestials. It was because the seven stages of celestial divinity that the average celestial practitioners were put through were extremely arduous. So when they had ascended to the Celestial Realm, it put them on par with the Ancient Celestials that were already there.

The power differences between a Golden Celestial and an Ancient Celestial may be slight but in a fight, the difference between a lower tier and a higher tier celestial was more pronounced.

A Fifth Tier Celestial had an upper limit of ninety years of martial power while a First Tier Celestial only had an upper limit of sixty years with the upper limit increasing by a tenth after every tribulation. Even though an Eighth Tier Celestial in theory was twice as powerful as a First Tier Celestial, twice was an improbably imagination for most celestials!

It was because when a physical limit was reached, it required twice as much effort to raise the limit by a little. Even though there was a sixty years limit for the celestial practitioners, most had difficulty reaching

even this limit!

Ximen Nanqing was a Fifth Tier Golden Celestial and one of the most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm. And the young man that had defeated him was just an ordinary celestial practitioner. How could it be even possible!?

But looking at the way that some of the maidens that had golden eyes were looking at him, they were also bewildered! It seemed that these maidens were his followers and not the other way round!

A black bearded Celestial stared at Yi Ping and said coldly, "You are Yi Ping? You are the one that killed Ximen Nanqing?"

This black beard Celestial name was the Northern Tyrant. He was a friend of Ximen Nanqing and it was clear that he was not here to attend any wedding.

Beside him, there were also several celestials that were acquainted with Ximen Nanqing!

Yi Ping took a quick glance at Xiao Youxue before he said firmly, "That's right! I am Yi Ping and Ximen Nanqing had indeed fallen under my hands!"

Immediately, there were a mutterings of disbelief that filled the hall!

It was obvious that this Yi Ping was just a celestial practitioner and not yet a full fledge celestial yet! How was it possible? Such a thing was unheard of unless it was foul play!

Xiao Youxue was startled as she eyed Yi Ping melancholy as she thought, "Ping'Er, you are taking the rap for me? Do you know that we are facing dozens of super exponents today? And they are all Golden Celestials..."

The Northern Tyrant looked quietly at the four priests from the Holy Ascension Sect. It was because he knew that these four priests were the elders of the Holy Ascension Sect and he was wary. It was because the Holy Ascension Sect was a major celestial clan in the Celestial Realm and was seeking hegemony. Quite a number of celestial clans had already

sworn fealty to the Holy Ascension Sect!

Unless they knew the inclination of the Holy Ascension Sect, then most of the celestials was declined to act hastily!

The four priests were surprising solemn and they seemed to be staring intensely at the extremely beautiful maiden in a white gold dress that was inscribed with circular sigil.

A pale young man with golden eyes who called himself the White Ape Scholar smirked at Yi Ping, scarcely believing what Yi Ping had said. The White Ape Scholar was a top exponent of the Celestial Solstice Clan and was representing the Domain Lord of the Celestial Solstice Clan to attend the wedding.

Even though the wedding date had been officially announced by Yi Ping, there were no invitations to anyone whatever so; all the guests today had come unannounced!

The Celestial Solstice Clan had just sworn fealty to the Holy Ascension Sect so naturally the White Ape Scholar had recognized the four priests in white and gray robes. He thought curiously, "There is a young man in their company the last time and he is inconspicuous missing..."

The Celestial Solstice Clan and the Dominating Aura Clan were actually rival clans. He was actually sent by his Domain Lord to gather intelligence on the newly founded Tranquil City.

The White Ape Scholar bowed his hands respectfully at the four priests from the Holy Ascension Sect, "My respected seniors, we are juniors and we dare not make any hasty decisions. May I know where you stand in this matter? This Yi Ping has admitted killing Ximen Nanqing. Even though this is his wedding but my Domain Lord is a friend of Ximen Nanqing. If his friend is killed, then shouldn't we seek vendetta on behalf of my Domain Lord?"

The Northern Tyrant hummed coldly. No one believed such a white lie of course. But as he was eager to avenge Ximen Nanqing, he kept his cool. It was because the Holy Ascension Sect was one of the major celestial clans in the Celestial Realm. Even if he did not hold these four priests in

high regard, he was forced to be humble.

The four priests were Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You.

Xuan Kong was the oldest looking and was also the leader of the group.

Xuan Kong said coldly, "If you value your life, you shouldn't make a move first."

The White Ape Scholar was startled, "Senior, you are helping this Yi Ping?"

Xuan Kong replied coldly, "On the contrary, we want him dead very badly."

All the celestials were startled. It was because they had thought that the four priests were trying to help this Yi Ping!

The White Ape Scholar was slightly baffled, "I will lose to him?"

The Northern Tyrant dropped him a hint out of annoyance, "You are so focused on this Yi Ping that you did not notice that there were three Golden Celestials behind him?"

He was of course referring to Shen Xingyue, the Ascension Goddess and the Stellar Heaven Goddess.

The White Ape Scholar laughed aloud, "I will fear them? They are just pretty vases. Whether they can really fight is another matter. And moreover, we have almost one hundred of us here. What do we have to fear from just three Golden Celestials?"

The White Ape Scholar himself was a terrifying opponent. He had been through countless battles and had fought against multiple Golden Celestials at once. Moreover today, there were dozens of his compatriots. If he could not outfight them, surely retreating was not a great deal of an issue for him. Moreover, retreating against multiple opponents was not an entirely dishonorable thing!

Xuan Kong said simply, "Go on. We won't intervene but you mustn't hurt the maiden in white gold attire."

The White Ape Scholar laughed, "Don't tell me that Reverent Xuan

Kong has taken an interest in her and wants to dual celestial with her?”

The White Ape Scholar did not notice that Xuan Kong was staring angrily at him as he was completely mesmerized by the enthralling maiden in white gold dress who laughed softly, “The White Ape Scholar really likes to joke.”

The White Ape Scholar was slightly surprised but pleased at the same time that she actually knew who he was even though he had never seen her before. He felt proud and could sense that a number of celestials in the group were envious of him.

The White Ape Scholar laughed, “Since maiden knows my celestial name, I wonder if maiden can grace me with your name?”

The enthralling maiden who was the Ascension Goddess laughed softly as she looked at Yi Ping coyly, “I am afraid that you have to ask someone else here for permission first.”

The White Ape Scholar looked at Yi Ping and then laughed, “He is just a lowly celestial practitioner who has not even become a true celestial yet. Surely you are not afraid of him?”

The Ascension Goddess sighed softly seemingly with despair, “You are right. I am really afraid of him!”

The White Ape Scholar was baffled, “Oh?”

The Ascension Goddess said gently, “You have come here to attend a wedding. Don’t you know who the groom is and who the bride is?”

The White Ape Scholar was further mystified, “I know who the groom is but you are the bride? But you are a Golden Celestial and he is just a...”

The Ascension Goddess interrupted sharply, “So? He is a lowly celestial practitioner and I am a highly attained celestial. Who says he can’t be my husband? If he isn’t fit, who else is? Are you fit?”

The White Ape Scholar was taken aback by the sharp change in her tone but he quickly composed himself as he said coldly, “We shall see about that...”

Even before he had finished speaking, he had already sprung towards Yi Ping with lightning speed as his eyes turned murderous!

Yi Ping was not slow to react as he shouted, "I can handle him alone..."

It was because he had already noticed that Yixian, Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue, Youxue, Lingfeng, Lele, Yunzi, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess had all taken a step forward or was already preparing to confront the attacker!

Yi Ping had leapt forward with a loud shout as he raised his palm to display the Ultrapowerful Force!

Almost instantaneously, there was a thunderous clap and the air exploded thunderously as the two opponents clashed against one another!

The White Ape Scholar was met with a startling force that forced him flying backward. Immediately, he had coughed out blood in disbelief as his golden eyes turned red!

He was immediately afflicted with severe internal injuries as a powerful crackling martial force breeched and entered through him!

If he was not a Golden Celestial and protected by his Sovereign Martial Force, he would have died on the spot!

The White Ape Scholar staggered back as he stared furiously at Yi Ping while on his knees as he began to shiver uncontrollably, "You...! How dare you..."

As he looked up, he was startled and so were many of the celestials that Yi Ping was still standing casually, seemingly without any sign any injuries!

The White Ape Scholar muttered, "How is it possible..."

Even the Northern Tyrant was staring at Yi Ping and he was secretly startled.

It was totally unheard of that a celestial practitioner could take a blow from a Golden Celestial and was could emerge unscathed!

Yi Ping had executed the Ultrapowerful Force that the Universal Old

Man had taught him. Unlike the Divine Horizon Hand, the Ultrapowerful Force was a powerful palm technique that focused the entire martial power at the attacking point and was a devastating palm skill. While the Ultrapowerful martial power may not be as powerful as the Asper Horizon Hand which was the ultimate killing technique of the Divine Horizon Hand, it was less demanding on martial power requisite.

Yi Ping was startled that he could knock back a Golden Celestial with such ease too. He did not know that after pushing himself to the limit on numerous times with the Asper Horizon Hand, his martial power was now at a startling power level!

A combination of factors had also contributed to his startling martial power level; he had long cleared his life and death channels, which was a requisite to become a Golden Celestial. His Boundless Force was now so pure that it had long evolved into the Absolute Equilibrium Force, which instantly rebalanced his martial power each time he had used it and it also had the effect of manifolds his martial force!

The White Ape Scholar shouted to the rest, "What are you waiting for? Don't you want to avenge Ximen Nanqing?"

A Celestial with a ruddy face said coolly, "No thanks. I have really come to attend the wedding uninvited and have no intention of picking a fight."

It was the truth. Quite a number of Golden Celestials who were previously under the oppression of the Dominating Aura Clan was gleeful and was in fact rejoicing over the demise of Ximen Nanqing. So they had come uninvited to take a look at the hero.

But they had never expected to find Yi Ping to be so young looking and that he was just a celestial practitioner.

The ruby face celestial added politely, "My celestial name is the Deadly Wanderer. So Master Yi Ping, I have come here to attend your wedding. There are so many beautiful maidens around you. So, who is the bride?"

When Yi Ping saw that this Deadly Wanderer was polite to him, he replied politely as well. "They are all my brides today."

A wave of startled silence greeted everyone, dumbfounding everyone!

Even Yi Ping was thinking that this must be the most ridiculous thing that was happening!

He sighed softly...

That day in the secret chamber, everyone was startled and stunned that Lingfeng was actually proposing that he should dual celestial with the Ascension Goddess!

This immediately sparked off an immediately flurry of protests!

He was stunned and said, "That is impossible and I don't even know her..."

The Ascension Goddess gave him a hurtful look, "How could you say that after what we have been through..."

He panicky said, "Not that..."

But his voice was quickly drowned out by the bickering maidens!

He was soon shouting, "Stop! Wait..."

Even though his martial shout was powerful but he was no match for the extraordinary internal strength of some of the maidens!

Yixian, Lele, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and many of the maidens were all internal martial experts. They did not have or need to shout; their soft voice would resound in everyone's ears clearly to the extent of overlapping all other exterior sounds!

He was simply overwhelmed and he was still shouting aloud, "Stop it. Just stop it! Anything, just..."

All of a sudden, all the maidens began to start exchanging blows with one another furiously!

The entire chamber had broken out in pandemonium!

The Universal Old Man was as panicky as Yi Ping and he too was shouting aloud. But he was afraid of directing confronting the furious maidens. When the Heaviness gave him a stern look, he could only smile

bitterly!

Mei'Er was pleading, "Stop! Why don't Yi Ping marry all of us then...?"

"Just...anything...please stop!" He was shouting aloud panicky.

All of a sudden, there was a deafening silence and everyone was looking at him!

He froze in his tracks and turned pale immediately as he looked into their eyes blankly!

What had happened next was so sudden and before he could really come to his senses, a grand wedding had already been planned with exciting anticipation!

Back at the present, Yi Ping was still looking at the stunned silence of the grand hall.

He repeated solemnly, "They are all my brides."

The Deadly Wanderer muttered in astonishment as he looked at all the maidens that were beside him. They were carrying smiles and did not seem to be forced against their will.

All of a sudden, Northern Tyrant issued a commanding shout. "Seize him!"

Seven Golden Celestials immediately leapt towards Yi Ping at the same time!

Only two of the Golden Celestials were his subordinates. The rest were opportunists and among the seven celestials, was the White Ape Scholar again!

Yi Ping immediately displayed the Asper Techniques of the Divine Horizon Hands, the Asper Continuum Horizon Hand, sending dozens dark shadowy palm images flurrying in all directions in split second!

These shadowy palms were not tricks of the eyes or illusions but the solidification of martial force merging with martial power! Immediately, the seven celestials raised their hands, displaying their extraordinary martial skills and power to dispel the martial force!

They knew that this type of aerial martial force attack required a great deal of martial power from the martial practitioner and was not as powerful as a direct impact. In short, it was weaker and was impracticable against a strong martial opponent. Moreover, there were seven of them and once they had breech this little nuisance attack, then this Yi Ping would have expended most of his martial power and weakened his defenses. Obviously, they would have disabled and torn him like a paper!

That was why even though the Asper Continuum Horizon Hand was the second stance of the Asper Techniques, it was actually weaker than the Asper Horizon Hand which was the first stance of the Asper Techniques.

All of a sudden, their disdainful eyes turned to startled shock when they were turn aside by the flurrying shadowy palm attacks that were flying towards them!

The martial force of this Yi Ping was even greater than they had expected!

Immediately, they slowed down their movements and executed their epitome defensive stances at the same time. But before they could even fight off the dozens of shadowy palm attacks, Yi Ping was displaying hundreds of shadowy flurrying forces sending in all directions as he displayed the Asper Continuum Horizon not twice, but in a startling display had executed five Asper Continuum Horizon Hands!

Yi Ping himself was surprised that he could display the second Asper Continuum Horizon Hand with such little effort. It was because the martial power demand of the Asper Continuum Horizon was even more strenuous than the Asper Horizon Hand! But because he wanted to test his limits and that he knew that his opponents would not give him any chance to retaliate, he had executed five Asper Continuum Horizon Hands one after the other!

Because he had already reached the Transverse level, the speed and explosive impact of his Asper Continuum had also improved by leap and bounds!

There were hundreds of thunderous impact and the windforces from the hundreds of shadowy palm attacks were so startling that the entire hall was actually shaking as everyone began to raise their defense stances as they hurried backward, including the Universal Old Man and the other maidens!

The White Ape Scholar raised his fist as he dispelled one martial force after another. He was stunned that this was no ordinary windforce but was charged with vital energies. As he unleashed his martial power to negate the incoming aerial attacks, he found his martial power draining away with every counter attack. As his martial power weakened, he was suddenly struck by several dozens of these aerial attacks!

When the five Asper Continuum Horizon Hands had finished executing, the seven celestials were all lying on the ground and were trembling nonstop while Yi Ping was panting breathlessly!

Many of the visiting celestials immediately broke into a cold sweat as they witnessed this epitome display! Immediately, they realized that even though his celestial attainment was not as highly as they were, this Yi Ping was not an ordinary martial exponent as well!

The four priests, Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You immediately raised their eyebrows at this epitome display but there were no sign of any fears.

Even the Northern Tyrant was humming coldly as he said with disdain, "You have wasted so much of their martial power and strength to tackle these small fries. How are you going to have any strength to fight us later?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly. He had always fought to the best of his capability regardless of who his opponents were. But the Northern Tyrant was right. He did not have much strength left after this epitome display! If they attacked again, then he would be hard pressed!

The Northern Tyrant, the four priests of the Holy Ascension Sect, the Deadly Wanderer and some of the celestials were actually in a totally different league. When top exponents dual, they had to be in tip top

condition for any sign of weakness would always lead to death!

Yi Ping clenched his fist. Even though he looked tired but he was not as drained as these Golden Celestials had thought; his martial power was actually replenishing at a startling rate due to his Divine Revelation Intricacy Skill, which controlled his vital energies and his Absolute Equilibrium Force, which replenished his martial power!

The Northern Tyrant had stepped forward and there was a killing malevolent aura around him!

Yi Ping continued to show no fear as he said coldly, "I have no feud with you. Why are you forcing my hand?"

The Northern Tyrant replied coldly, "It is because you have made a mistake of killing Ximen Nanqing. Do you know that he is my sworn brother?"

Just as Yi Ping was about to say something, Yu'Er and Mei'Er had stepped forth at the same time!

Yi Ping was startled, "Yu'Er, Mei'Er..."

Yu'Er took a quick look at her protégé mistress Yixian who in turn nodded quietly to her. Seeing that her protégé mistress had given her the approval to act, she said aloud to the visiting celestials, "You have all come uninvited and instead of coming in peace, you have come to sought troubles for us."

Mei'Er nodded and added, "There is no need to trouble our master for small fry like you. We are sufficient."

The Northern Tyrant was a highly regarded celestial in the Celestial Realm and not many dare to show such disrespect to him.

He was immediately aroused with anger as he said coldly, "Very well. Let me teach you a lesson that you will never forget. Don't forget who I am next time if there is a next time for you."

Yu'Er immediately said, "We see!"

Mei'Er taunted him, "Why are you still standing there for?"

The Northern Tyrant stared angrily at them, “I see that you are juniors, that is why I am intending to give you the benefits of three strokes!”

Mei’Er hummed coldly as she took minuscule movement which immediately dazzled quite a number of celestials as she laughed softly, “Even though it appears that you are gracing us with the benefit of three strokes but as a highly experienced exponent, you are actually waiting to observe and exploit our openings. The first to attack don’t really have any benefit. Instead, it can be fatal when top exponents dual!”

Many of the celestials began to mutter and nodded among themselves! It was the truth. Enacting the slow movement against the fast movement and the motionless against the motion; against an opponent that attack first, the last to attack was able to attack with even swifter and more focus attack. That was because when an opponent had attacked first, they would have lost the benefit of counter attacking, the benefit of adjusting their strokes and even their attacking movements would be slower than usual because they could not predict what their opponents’ action would be!

When top exponents fight with one another, they were most reluctant to be the first to attack and they would often taunt their opponents to make the first move.

Yu’Er further taunted, “At first I thought that you are a highly respected celestial in the Celestial Realm but you are just someone who wants to take advantage of two maidens. What a shameful person!”

The Northern Tyrant despite his meditation techniques were immediately moved to anger. He was a hot temper celestial or else he would not be known as a Tyrant. The only reason he could ascend in the past was because of his invincible divine skill, the Divine Meteor Pursuit Skill.

He said angrily, “Junior, don’t blame me for being ruthless then!”

Yi Ping panicky said as he stepped forward, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er be careful!”

But Yixian halted him by whispering quietly to his ears alone, “I will interfere if something is amiss. Don’t worry.”

Yixian was not the only one giving Yi Ping the assurances. Shen Xingyue, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess too, had used the Great Whispering Skill to assure him at the same time!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy whispered, "They are my grand protégé disciples after all. I will interfere when necessary."

Shen Xingyue whispered, "I will like to teach this Northern Tyrant a lesson too. Let Yu'Er and Mei'Er have a go first."

Yi Ping nodded reluctantly as he looked quietly at Yu'Er and Mei'Er.

Yu'Er and Mei'Er were both fluttering now when they noticed how concerned Yi Ping was for them.

Yu'Er laughed softly, "We'll be alright. This Northern Tyrant doesn't seem to be a strong exponent..."

When the Northern Tyrant had heard how they had belittled him, he was so enraged that he had mustered his martial power and had leapt upon them with a startling explosive speed!

Yu'Er and Mei'Er were not slow to react. They had quickly unsheathed their golden swords as a golden radiance surrounded them!

The Northern Tyrant was startled as he quickly evaded their attacks and counter attack with several explosive punches!

But Yu'Er and Mei'Er raised their sword fingers as they displayed the Divine Emerald Skill as they displayed dozens of cold beaming sword energies in all directions!

This time, the Northern Tyrant was truly startled!

Not only was his explosive punches failed to break down their defenses, he was forced to devote much of his martial power to defend against the sword energies. This of course was not the real reason why he was startled; these two maidens had in their possessions two powerful divine swords!

Yixian was startled too. All of a sudden, she had realized that Yu'Er and Mei'Er swordplay seemed to have improved considerably! Moreover, they

seemed to have merged one with their divine swords too, an attainment which was extremely difficult for most celestial who had centuries of attainment and not to mention that they were not even twenty!

The twin sisters had already reached a new level in their Dual Inertness Intricacy. Moreover with the Listening Rhyme of the Eternal Ice Palace and by observing the Ascension Goddess, they were able to merge one with their divine swords!

The Ascension Goddess was secretly startled. The twin sisters seemed to be picking her fighting moves even though it was still not the same and had not reached her expertise but their sword energies display were extremely startling as they executed their beaming cold energies all around them seemingly without any restraint!

Everyone began to step backward and began to parry or evade the extraordinary random bursts of sword energies that were strafing in all directions, sending the marble and stone slabs of the floor to be ripped apart and flying in all directions!

The Northern Tyrant had never expected that these two young celestial practitioners would be able to execute sword energies and with such an unrestrained bursts!

Lie Qing was muttering to herself, "Yu'Er, Mei'Er...they have unleashed at least twenty one sword energy each and they can still maintain the Divine Emerald Skill...how is it possible that they can maintain the vital energy flow of their internal strength?"

Even Yi Ping, Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man were astonished!

Barely had the Northern Tyrant made his attack, he was slashed by Yu'Er and Mei'Er who had completely broken down his defenses and fell onto the ground much to the stunned silence of the visiting celestials!

Yu'Er gave the Northern Tyrant a hard kick as he slammed against the wall with a thunderous impact!

The Northern Tyrant coughed out more blood as his entire face turned white with ashen as he muttered incoherently!

Just as Mei'Er wanted to raise her sword again, Yi Ping said. "Mei'Er, that is enough. He isn't your match. Just let him off. After all, this is our wedding."

Mei'Er hummed coldly at the Northern Tyrant before she said affectionately to Yi Ping, "Master...Brother Ping...we have taught him a lesson on your behalf!"

At the same time, many of the visiting celestials were looking at the twin sister's swords and their hearts were pounding excitedly. Divine swords were extremely rare in the Celestial Realm and they could not believe that they were in the presence of two divine swords!

The covetous celestials were all thinking the same, "They are only celestial practitioners and unworthy of having these divine swords. If only I have these swords, it will certainly benefit me..."

The Northern Tyrant coughed out more blood as he stared angrily at Yi Ping. He had never expected to be humiliated in front of so many celestials today! Even though he too, wanted the two divine swords for himself but he had underestimated the two maidens and had suffered a crushing defeat.

While he was still coughing bitterly out of exasperation, three other celestials had also stepped forward as they raised their precious swords.

These three celestials were from the Immortal Sword Clan and the celestial taking the lead said, "Maidens, if we cannot defeat you then we will leave behind our precious swords. But if you are unable to defeat us, then please leave your swords behind! Will you dare to try our Negative Six Swords Immortal Formation? If you dare not try, then we will consider that you have conceded to us!"

It was indeed a laudable thing. Three precious swords in exchange for two divine swords?

It was because the Immortal Sword Clan was a reputable clan so naturally they could not seize the divine swords in an open manner. But everyone could tell that these three celestials were leaving Yu'Er and Mei'Er with no other choice!

Shen Xingyue was none too pleased with their actions and were disappointed that the celestials in the Celestial Realm were like bullies. So she had immediately stepped forward and raised her palm forward!

Immediately, the air around the ground was crushed by a strong gravity and exploded thunderous forward!

The three celestials immediately raised their swords at the same time but they were simply swept aside by a strong tidal force!

She had just displayed the Big Dipper Hands as she said, "Insolent idiots!"

The tidal shockwave was so great that quite a number of celestials were forced to take a few steps backward!

The Deadly Wanderer gasped aloud, "The Big Dipper Hands! Isn't this the secret divine arts of the Holy Ascension Sect?"

But while he was gasping, there were another breathless mutterings among the visiting celestials as Shen Xingyue had drawn out her Blue Heavens Divine Sword!

Another Divine Sword!

There were three divine swords!

But the rest of the celestials did not dare to make a false move now because Shen Xingyue was a Golden Celestial. After her epitome display, they were wary now.

Xuan Kong hummed coldly, "What a bunch of losers. You don't even know who you are dealing with."

All the visiting celestials froze. It was because they had suddenly remembered what Xuan Kong had reminded them earlier.

The Deadly Wanderer smiled bitterly as he looked at the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue, "May I know who you are and what is your relation to the Holy Ascension Sect?"

The Ascension Goddess gave a faint smile as she said, "Alas! I am just a nobody in the Holy Ascension Sect. My celestial name is the Ascension

Goddess and she is my protégé sister, the Dark Enchantress!”

Shen Xingyue protested weakly, “My new fraternity name is the Fiery Phoenix now!”

The visiting celestials had immediately frozen in their tracks! It was because none of them had found their humor to be funny!

Who had never heard of the Ascension Goddess?

She was the Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect. No one here had seen her before but her fighting ability alone had ranked her as one of the new seven top super celestial fighters! The fighters of the new seven super celestial fighters were not an empty title that was given out based on their celestial clans and was actually based on their actual battles!

The Deadly Wanderer stammered to the Ascension Goddess, “You...are that demoness that have battled dozens of top celestial fighters from the twelve northern divine peak celestial clans and killed every single of them, just because they refused to submit to the Holy Ascension Sect?”

Even the Northern Tyrant was gasping, “In recent months, I have heard that the Ascension Goddess is in this region, killing and plundering? You are her?!”

Yi Ping stared angrily at the Ascension Goddess as he thought, “You have killed so many people?! I must be really blind to trust you...”

The Ascension Goddess had noticed that Yi Ping was looking fiercely at her so she quickly said coyly. “Ping’Er, I wouldn’t kill unnecessary. You can ask them. If I were to fall into their hands, my fate would be miserable. Do you really want to see me in such a sorry state? You have seen how ruthless these celestials have been...”

She appeared to be melancholy, “You already know I am no angel in the past but I am willing to repent but if you are always remembering my past and not giving me any chance, I will rather die in front of you!”

Yixian immediately comforted the Ascension Goddess, “I understand...I have killed just as many as you too...”

The anger in Yi Ping's eyes immediately vaporized as he said gently, "Alas! As long as you don't kill unnecessary from now on, let the past be the past."

The Ascension Goddess lit up and immediately she was smiling happily, "Naturally!"

But many of the visiting celestials were already thinking miserably, "The Ascension Goddess is known as the Vengeful Goddess. Her ruthlessness is legendary and unlike the other celestials, she did not restraint from killing..."

In the Celestial Realm, the Ascension Goddess was known to go after anyone that dared to speak ill of her. There was once a celestial that was ranked fifth in the super celestial fighters ranking while she was ranked seventh. He had spoken ill of her. Out of the blue, she sought him out and had decapitated him with her divine sword and that fight was even witnessed by quite a number of surviving celestials; it was said that she had fought with her eyes closed and finished the fight barely before it had even started!

The Deadly Wanderer looked at the sheathed long sword that was hanging by the side of the Ascension Goddess as he thought nervously, "That sword must be your divine sword then...I have never seen so many divine swords in my life before. Who is this Yi Ping, that old man and who are these maidens? Surely they are no ordinary celestial practitioners and celestials..."

The Ascension Goddess said gently, "So you are all here to attend my wedding, yes or no?"

Immediately, many of the celestials broke into cold sweat as they answered swiftly and humbly, "Indeed we have. We didn't know that it is the Ascension Goddess. We have good intentions..."

The Northern Tyrant immediately cursed Xuan Kong, "You! You know she is the Ascension Goddess. You know who she is. You know she is the Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect and yet you didn't tell us! If we have known who she is, we wouldn't have dared to create such a

mess...”

But he was immediately interrupted by Xuan You, “We have told you that you can challenge anyone but her. You didn’t listen so don’t blame us. Moreover, we have indeed come to disrupt the wedding. So you are planning to give your blessings to them?”

The Northern Tyrant was startled!

He stammered, “You have come to disrupt the wedding? Why didn’t you give us a hand earlier?”

Xuan Wei said coldly, “It is our internal sect affairs and none of your business.”

Xuan Qian said humbly to the Ascension Goddess, “I hope that you can reconsider your decision and come back to us to the Holy Ascension Sect or we will have difficulty accounting to the Holy Supremacy. Or else don’t blame us from taking actions!”

The Ascension Goddess said coolly, “I have already made up my mind. Do you think you can threaten me just like that?”

Xuan Kong said, “We wouldn’t dare but as elders of the Holy Ascension Sect, we must not allow the divine swords of the Holy Ascension Sect to fall into the hands of the outsiders. Do you need us to remind you that we know of your weakness?”

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, “My weakness is irrelevant now.”

Xuan Qian asked, “What do you mean?”

The Ascension Goddess pointed at Shen Xingyue before pointing at Yu’Er and Mei’Er, “The three of them are also the Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect and in our hands are four divine swords. Even if you know my weakness, it will take at least two of you to subdue me but now, there are four Supreme Celestials here. Moreover...”

She stole a glance at the Universal Old Man, Lingfeng, Yixian, Lie Qing, Youxue and Yi Ping, “We are not alone. Even if you summon our protégé grandmasters, you cannot subdue me anymore.”

The visiting celestials were left gasping with astonishment!

There were actually four Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect! No wonder their fighting capabilities were so deadly!

The Northern Tyrant sighed, "I am not defeated by the divine swords...it is not so disgraceful to be defeated by the Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect. In fact, I should be honored that I am able to survive a fight with them."

All of a sudden, he was glad that he had found the perfect excuse to salvage his pride in front of the celestials!

Xuan Kong was startled, "My Ascension Goddess! You...you are really planning to rebel against the Holy Ascension Sect? Have you forgotten your most sacred oaths yet?"

The Ascension Goddess replied coolly, "I have not forgotten about my sacred vows. Go back and tell the Holy Supremacy that I will return shortly to the Holy Ascension Sect with my husband..."

All of a sudden, everyone in the grand hall froze in their tracks as the air around them had turned extremely cold as they felt a killing malevolent aura that was approaching!

It was the supernatural coldness of the sword energies!

And it was not one but three! Before they had made their appearances, their presences were already felt, paralyzing everyone!

Yi Ping stared intently at the entrance of the hall...

The Universal Old Man muttered, "Such a powerful sword energy. He is definitely a super celestial exponent. I wonder who he is..."

Even Xuan Kong, Xuan Wei, Xuan You, Xuan Qian were uneasy as they stared at the entrance.

The Ascension Goddess was already clasping the hilt of her sword while Lingfeng the Heaveness was looking disturbed as they looked to the entrance.

It was not long before they saw three old men in white and purple robes

at the entrance. Each of them had three swords on their back. The old man in the middle with a long white beard was the most commanding and there was a terrifying malevolent air around him.

Immediately, Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You turned white with ashen.

Xuan Kong said quietly, "What an occasion. Even the Immortal Sword Sages of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan is here today."

Shen Xingyue was flinching and trembling. It was because the three Immortal Sword Sages were staring piercingly at her as though they wanted to devour her!

She thought uneasily, "They are here for the Blue Heavens Divine Sword?"

Chapter 95: The Three Immortal Sword Sages

Yi Ping was uneasy. These three old men had a familiar feeling around them.

When Xuan Kong had mentioned the name of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan, he was suddenly jolted! It was because he had suddenly remembered Zuo Tianyi who was the protégé leader of the Infinity Sword Clan!

All of a sudden, he was fearful for Shen Xingyue as he stole a quiet glance at her.

Shen Xingyue was looking uneasy and she was trembling lightly.

Yi Ping smiled bitterly and he was trembling slightly from the suppressing presence of their powerful sword auras!

Yi Ping asked in a low whisper, “They are Immortal Sword Sages? Are they powerful? I feel really uneasy.”

The Ascension Goddess smiled bitterly, “They are extremely difficult to deal with opponents. Even the Holy Ascension Sect is unwillingly to meddle with them. The one in the middle is the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage. He is the celestial leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. The two old men beside him are the clan elders, Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and Immortal Sword Blitz Sage.”

When the three old men had arrived, it was as though the entire scene had been frozen in time; no one had dared to move as they held their breath. The suffocating weights of their sword auras were simply irresistible!

Yi Ping tried to move but it seemed as though he was being held immobilized and he was suddenly feeling extremely fatigued!

He crackled his knuckles and willed his consciousness with the Absolute Spirits Heart Intricacy as he struggled against the invisible

suffocating sword auras!

Xuan Kong muttered, "Such powerful sword auras! Even the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan is here today!"

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said solemnly, "Our sword auras may be powerful but it is still too weak to restraint the Four Reverend Elders of the Holy Ascension Sect, Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You."

Xuan Wei stroked his beard as he said, "Is there a need for the three most powerful Immortal Sword Sages of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan to be here? Is that an overkill? Just anyone of you is more than sufficient."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage laughed, "The Four Reverend Elders of the Holy Ascension Sect is too humble. If I am alone, I may not be your combined match. Moreover..."

He paused and looked at everyone in the hall, "This is no ordinary gathering today. We sensed the sword energy of a divine sword here but we have never expected that there will be eight divine swords here!"

Immediately all the other visiting celestials were dumbfounded as they quickly looked at Yi Ping and his company!

Eight divine swords! That was something unprecedented! Divine swords were extremely rare in the Celestial Realm compared to the Mortal Realm. The appearance of one divine sword was enough to cause a terrible bloodshed in the Celestial Realm, moreover there were eight in the same place now!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage stared fiercely at Shen Xingyue as he said coldly, "But we have only one purpose. Surrender the Blue Heavens Divine Sword immediately. This is the Heritage Artifact of the Infinity Sword Clan and does not belong to anyone else."

Shen Xingyue said coldly, "Why should I do as you say? It is in my hands and I am obviously the owner. Just because you say it belongs to the Infinity Sword Clan, then it belongs to the Infinity Sword Clan?"

She raised the Blue Heavens Divine Sword in front of her and

immediately a blue radiance could be seen, “Moreover, I have merged one with the Blue Heavens and I am the chosen. Unless I am dead, the Blue Heavens will not choose a new master.”

The three Immortal Sword Sages were slightly startled that she had indeed merged one with the sword and from her simple demonstration, it validated her claims.

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage said coldly, “You have no idea how malicious and accursed this divine sword is towards its master. It will only bring forth tragedies and sorrows to all its masters. I will advise you to give it up before its accursed fate gets to you.”

Shen Xingyue laughed softly, “You really think I am just a child to believe in this fairytale? If I surrender the Blue Heavens to you, do you think you are able to wield it? Or don’t tell me the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan has a way of using the Blue Heavens without falling victim to it?”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage said coldly, “We will of course seal the Blue Heavens in a secure place. This, you do not have to worry too much.”

He paused for a while as he gave a cold smile, “Unless of course, you think that you are able to stop us from seizing back the Blue Heavens. Even if your friends have divine swords in their hands, do they think they are able to stop the three of us? Do you think they can do so without losing their very own lives?”

Yi Ping sighed softly.

Even though his sigh was light but it was like a cool refreshing breeze that immediately seize the attention of everyone, lifting the heavy sword auras of the three Immortal Sword Sages!

The three Immortal Sword Sages were startled that a lowly celestial practitioner could actually dissipate their Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura in such a causal manner even though it lasts briefly!

The Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura was an epitome level of the Infinitude Energy Skill, representing one of the highest embodiments in energies mastery. In the Celestial Realm, the Six Ley Infinitude Sword

Aura was one of the most epitome divine skills and the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan was renowned for its sword energies techniques!

Yi Ping said firmly with righteous fire in his eyes, “It is no difference from stealing. It is what a hooligan will do and not what a respected celestial is expected to do. Is there no righteousness in the Celestial Realm?”

All three Immortal Sword Sages and all the celestials were startled by Yi Ping’s remarks! It was because no one dares to be disrespectful to the three Immortal Sword Sages!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, “You are scolding us? You are saying we are hooligans? Very good! Very good! No one has dared to be disrespect to us for a long time. Those that did are no longer living. You know very well that the Blue Heavens Divine Sword is the Heritage Artifact of the Infinity Sword Clan and you are flipping black to white with your reasoning!”

Yi Ping said casually, “This, I really do not know!”

That was the truth. He had always assumed that Shen Xingyue was in possession of the Blue Heavens Divine Sword.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was a highly attained celestial and he was not someone who could be easily be moved by anger but Yi Ping casual reply had a somewhat upsetting effect on him as he said coldly, “I have three swords on my back. One is a precious sword, one is a steel sword and the other is a wooden sword. At first, I require a precious sword to guide my sword energies. Eventually I am able to discard the precious sword and use an ordinary steel sword. Over time, my proficiency in sword energies is so mastery that I am able to use a wooden sword. Finally, I am able to cast away the wooden sword and use my fingers.”

Not only Yi Ping was startled by his proclamations, all the other celestials were taken aback as well! It was because the mere act of generating sword energy was extremely difficult. It not only required a high level of energy mediation, it also required a precious sword in order

to focus the vital energies of the practitioner into the lethal power of the sword energies!

When vital energy was materialized as sword energy, it literally became a destructive energy. The sword was a conduit to channel the destructive energy known as 'Sword Energy' before it was materialized from the invisible form to the visible form. However, sword energy was so destructive at the point of creation that it was known to destroy the practitioner. That was why it was important to imbue the sword energy with a precious sword so as to make the channeling easier or else when the sword shattered, the practitioner would be the first to perish!

And the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage seemed to be suggesting that he was able to use sword energies with his fingers!

What an extraordinary feat!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage raised his fingers into a sword finger stance as he said coldly, "Young man if you want to die, all by means try."

Yi Ping replied calmly as he displayed the Heaven Stance of the Divine Horizon Hands, "I am not only going to try, I am also going to kick you all out of the hall!"

Shen Xingyue was startled as she quickly used the Great Whispering Skill, whispering to Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, this is my destiny. They are here for the Blue Heavens Divine Sword. It is true that that I have taken this sword from Zuo Tianyi. These three old men are unfathomable. Even though they are impudent but at least they are reasonable to give me a choice..."

At the same time, Lele, Yixian, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess were also whispering to Yi Ping with the Great Whispering Skill as they raised the same concerns as Shen Xingyue; these three old men were all unfathomable exponents!

"You really think they will go away just like this?" A soft whisper could be heard by Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue, Lele, Yixian, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess at the same time, startling them!

They could actually hear her voice at the same time?!

Yi Ping knew that she was using her Great Listening Skill, a feat that she had made known to him. But she could actually whisper to all of them at the same time without alerting the others!

Lele whispered with her Great Whispering Skill, “Good Sister! You can hear us? What type of internal martial skill is this? Teach me...”

The Ascension Goddess and Yixian were suddenly flushing! It was because they did not know that someone else could actually eavesdrop on them all this while when they muttered their sweet nothings to Yi Ping!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was astounded as she realized that the Heaveness was actually whispering to all of them at the same time without alerting their opponents! In a fight, this was an extremely huge advantage over her other opponents! And judging by her Great Whispering Skill, her internal strength was extremely pure and concise!

Yixian, Lele, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess were all internal martial art experts. The Great Whispering Skill was an internal martial skill that required a pure internal strength and extremely hard to master, enabling them to whisper their soft voice to the ears of the receiver only.

This actually required a great deal of focus and effort and in a fight was almost impossible to use!

But the Heaveness could actually use the Great Whispering Skill on all of them at the same time!

Yi Ping, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Lie Qing, Youxue and Yunzi were aware of this secret epitome skill but they were incapable of using it. They were in awe of Lingfeng.

What else could Yi Ping do except to smile bitterly to himself?

He thought, “Only she can talk to me, I am unable to convey my thoughts to her. If it is a martial shouting contest, I can definitely do better...”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping noticed that Lingfeng was looking at him with a amused smile. He was startled as he thought, “She can hear my thoughts?”

No, that is impossible...it is a just a coincidence. No one can hear a person's inner thoughts..."

Lingfeng could indeed hear his thoughts! She was amused as she thought, "Hmph! You really think I want to listen to your disturbing thoughts all the time?"

While she was thinking, she had also seated herself on the throne casually, lifting her leg over the other as she yawned softly.

Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man, the other maidens and the other celestials were all looking at her. To their startled surprise, the heavy suffocating sword aura seemed to have totally dissipated!

The three Immortal Sword Sages were stunned that this alluring serene maiden was able to dissipate their powerful Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura with such a casual movement! Her state of divinity was simply unbelievable!

The alluring maiden who had seated herself at the throne seemed to be radiating a mystique aura; a serene force immediately distinguished her from the others!

Immediately, the other celestials had suddenly realized that she was an Ancient Celestial!

The Ascension Goddess had immediately thought, "So that is your true aura? The aura of the Heavenness?"

The Ascension Goddess had acute innate energy sense. When she had met Yi Ping, she immediately knew that he was unusual and that Lingfeng was an Ancient Celestial. While she was not surprised by her state of divinity displayed, she was still incredulous that the powerful Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura could be dissipated with such little effort! It was because the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura was similar to her Despairing Aura. Unless their opponents could find a way to neutralize the deadly auras, their fighting capabilities would be impeded. In a critical fight, this was fatal!

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly as she brandished her

Despairing Heaven Sword, “Disrespectful fools. My sister, the Fiery Phoenix is a Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect and you are so bold to threaten a Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect? Even she allows it, I will not.”

When the three Immortal Sword Sages saw her divine sword, they immediately knew who she was!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said solemnly, “So it is the Ascension Goddess of the Holy Ascension Sect. While I have never heard of the Fiery Phoenix but your reputation in the Celestial Realm is simply horrid and your attitude is really insolent. It is time for us to teach the junior some lessons. There is always a sage above a sage and a heaven above a heaven!”

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, “You think that just the three of you are able to teach me a lesson? You still a long way from that! Maybe if you manage to ask the Immortal Saint of Swords to come out of his retreat, only then I will be fearful. Why don’t the three of you have a go at the same time?”

She was actually fearful but this battle was actually also a psychology contest and a battle of the wits as they fought to gain the mental edge over one another. When she saw the Heavens had actually dissipated their deadly Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura, she was emboldened!

The Three Immortal Sword Sages were moved to anger by her insolence. It was obvious that their martial skills were above her.

Before the rest of the celestials had recovered from the stunning display of Lingfeng, they were stunned once more by the bold declarations of the Ascension Goddess!

Many of the visiting celestials were shaking their heads in disbelief.

They were all top martial exponents. How could they not know how deadly the three Immortal Sword Sages were? Even though the three Immortal Sword Sages were not ranked among the top celestials in the new celestial ranking, their sword techniques were considered to be unfathomed and many of their challengers had failed to return. And that

included a former number one celestial fighter!

Their golden eyes were also extremely piercing, striking fear in the hearts of the celestials. That spoke volumes of their martial level; even before the battle had started, the victor had already been decided!

Yi Ping was already gasping as he stared at their piercing golden eyes.

Even though their deadly powerful Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Auras were suppressed, that was just one of the many forms of their Six Negative Ley Infinitude Energy Intricacy Skill!

When Yi Ping was looking at them he saw the materialization of their 'Sword Intent' taking an invisible form that could be seen by him, how every stroke of his would be dismantled and countered, resulting in his death!

He broke into a cold shiver, as did many of the celestials at the same time!

The deadly killing malevolent auras of the three Immortal Sword Sages were everywhere now. The Ascension Goddess had succeeded in provoking them!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, "It has been a long time since I have exhibited my killing intent."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage gave a cold smile, "Indeed! At our state of divinity, all our strokes no matter how light are fatal."

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage sighed softly, "Someone is courting her own death. Xuan Kong, you have heard her. Do don't blame us. Or you may want to join forces with her?"

Xuan Kong was caught in a dilemma!

He was opposed to the union between the Ascension Goddess and Yi Ping. To him, she was perfect and no mere celestials or men were worthy of her. He had actually feared for her because the Holy Ascension Sect had no room for traitors and there were many powerful reclusive celestials in the Holy Ascension Sect. The Ascension Goddess had only

been in the Celestial Realm for a mere hundred years and may not have an idea how the elders of the Holy Ascension Sect regarded traitors.

At the same time, he was an elder of the Holy Ascension Sect and also a subordinate of hers. It was because Supreme Celestials in the Holy Ascension Sect had a special ranking. He remembered how the Ascension Goddess had saved them on numerous occasions and also the numerous difficult battles that they had been through.

All of a sudden, he laughed aloud. "I am with the Ascension Goddess of course! The Holy Ascension Sect has always been united against external foes!"

Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You hummed at the same time as they proclaimed proudly, "We are all behind the Ascension Goddess!"

The Ascension Goddess was secretly touched in her heart as she muttered, "Everyone..."

Even Yi Ping was moved. He was someone that could be easily moved by brotherhoods and the righteousness of the fraternity. He immediately raised his thumb up and exclaimed aloud, "Good!"

Shen Xingyue had moved quietly beside to the Ascension Goddess as she said quietly, "You don't have to take the rap for me. This is after all my battle. But...thank you!"

The Ascension Goddess gave a modest smile, "So...we are sisters?"

Shen Xingyue smiled faintly, "Of course we are. This is the first time we have battle together on the same side? To think that this may be our last."

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, "Maybe yes, maybe no."

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage smiled coldly, "It seems that this battle is inevitable. I wonder how many will die today?"

Yi Ping interrupted as he had already stepped forward, "I don't care how strong you are but I will not give up without a fight."

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage raised his eyebrows, "You want to fight

us with your bare hands? That is suicide against our sword energies! You need at least a precious sword in order to come within three yards of me. Give it up!"

Yi Ping said, "If that is my destiny, so be it!"

Almost as soon as he had finished it, Lie Qing and Lele had stepped beside him at the same time as they brandished the White Phoenix and the Divine Echo divine swords!

Lie Qing smiled sweetly at him, "I have my Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword now. You can use the White Phoenix Divine Sword. I will fight alongside you!"

Lele stroked her long hair slowly as she said gently, looking melancholy. "Ping'Er, here is the Divine Echo. Use it well. With two divine swords, you don't have to fear their sword auras!"

Yi Ping muttered, "Qing'Er...Lele..."

The three Immortal Sword Sages and many of the celestials were startled to learn the names of the White Phoenix and the Divine Echo. That included Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You!

The Deadly Wanderer could not help muttering, "Aren't these divine swords the Heritage Artifact of the Melody Palace? Why are they here?"

Immediately at the mention of the Melody Palace, more of the celestials were startled as they reacted nervously!

It was because while many of the celestials were still practicing celestials in the lower realm, they had heard of the three divine swords and the Celestial Star Annihilating Formation of the Melody Palace! The Melody Palace was one of the major celestial clan in the lower realm. Even though the Melody Palace had ceased to exist in the upper realm and was not a major celestial power now, their legacies still survived.

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage murmured, "It is really the divine swords of the Melody Palace. So you are all from the Melody Palace?"

Lele replied coldly, "That's right!"

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage hummed coldly, “No one can use wield two divine swords. The nature of the divine swords itself inhibited their use. Forcefully trying to wield two divine swords will only result in severe internal injuries and even cause a permanent deterioration of the practitioner’s martial skills even if he has survived. You are just harming him with your ignorant actions...”

While he was still rebuking them, Yi Ping picked up the two divine swords from Lie Qing and Lele. Immediately, there were two halos from the two divine swords!

The Immortal Sword Aegis was startled, “That’s impossible...”

All the other celestials were gasping and they were equally stunned!

Yi Ping said quietly, “Why the talk? If we are going to fight, so be it.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis took a quiet look at the other two Immortal Sword Sages. They were secretly wary of the presence of the eight divine swords. Moreover, they had to gauge the martial level of their opponents and at the same time, preserving the good reputation of their celestial clan by offering options to them.

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage quickly tried to change the conversation by pointing at Yixian the Celestial Fairy who was standing beside Lingfeng as he asked, “Then the identity of that last divine sword is the Heavenly Earth Divine Sword?”

All this while, Yixian and Lingfeng had been secretly exchanging whispers to each other with their Great Whispering Skill.

When all the celestials had turned their attention to them, they were all immediately mesmerized by their heavenly faint smiles and glorious radiance, which seemed to be manifesting with increasing heart stopping effect!

All of a sudden, one of the celestials immediately coughed out blood!

Immediately, several of the celestials were all closing their eyes. This was really too much for them! Some of the celestials were practitioners of the emotionless heart intricacies. When they were moved by emotions,

their vital energies would reverse and that resulted in internal injuries!

The Celestial Fairy said gently as she nodded towards the Stellar Heaven Fairy, “That’s right. We are all from the Melody Palace. And this is my protégé mistress, the Stellar Heaven Fairy. My incarnation name is Revelation Star but I am now known as the Celestial Fairy. And indeed, the sword in my hand is the Heavenly Earth Sword.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sword smiled weakly, “How did you manage to bring these three accursed divine swords to the Celestial Realm?”

But before Yixian could reply him, Lingfeng laughed softly, “It seems that you have all forgotten about me. I don’t think knowing how the three divine swords are in the Celestial Realm is the priority question, am I right?”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, “I have not forgotten about you. Even if you are an Ancient Celestial, there are no opponents that can survive our sword formation. No one at all. With our present level of celestial divinity, I am afraid that even the Ancient Celestials may not be able to match us.”

Lingfeng replied calmly with a gently smile, “I didn’t say I am going to give them a hand, am I right? That may not be necessary at all.”

She smiled to Yixian and the Heaven Stellar Fairy, “Am I right, sister?”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed softly, “We have been expecting everyone. But as an added precaution, I have instructed my former protégés on the secret intricacies of the formations of the Melody Palace and have it created in this place.”

All the celestials had turned pale!

It was because the Melody Palace was renowned for one celestial formation and it was the most deadly of all known formations, a celestial killing formation!

Everyone was suddenly nervous!

Yixian looked at the three Immortal Sword Sages with equally piercing

cold gaze as she said gently and unhurriedly, “What is so great with the sword formation of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan? You didn’t realize that you are all within the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation?”

Chapter 96: The Immortal Saint of Swords

“You didn’t realize that you are all within the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation?”

The minute the Celestial Fairy had made her proclamations, it struck everyone like a thunderbolt and many of the celestials were either staggering backward or provoked with teething rage!

The Northern Tyrant shouted thunderous, “You have lured us into a trap so as to get rid of us! Despicable!”

The Deadly Wanderer stammered, “Hero Yi Ping, this is a trap? Some of us didn’t mean to offend you. You know that this is the upper realm and not the lower realm. Killing us is detrimental to your future attainment...”

Xuan Kong laughed aloud, “So the Immortal Sword Sages, what do you say?”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said grimly, “When the Celestial Star Annihilating Formation is initiated, none of us will survive. Is there a need to move on to such extremes?”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said gently, “The Celestial Star Annihilating Formation is a defensive formation against even the most powerful celestials. You have come into the Celestial Star Annihilating Formation on your own accord and there is no one to blame for your own predicament.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, “What if we kill you before you can initiate the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation? This is a small hall after all.”

He had quickly composed himself and after a quick analysis, he had garnered that this could be just a bluff!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled, “You can try but are you willing to bet the lives of all the celestials here?”

Several of the visiting celestials quickly said, “Immortal Sword Aegis Sage, you are betting our lives for something so trifle. Surely, there is still

some room for discussion?”

All of a sudden, a celestial that was closed to the main hall bolted out!

This celestial was renowned for his swiftness movement skill and while they were still undecided, he had decided to flee first! Surely with his swiftness movement skill, fleeing was not a problem for him and it was not too late now...

He just needed a blink of an eye to reach the main entrance but before he could reach the exit, the chubby old man who was behind Yi Ping all this while was already at the exit!

This celestial was startled as he muttered, “How did...when did he...”

But before he could react, the Universal Old Man had raised his sleeves and said unhurriedly, “Back!”

A torrential windforce burst forth from the entrance of the hall and swept everyone further into the hall, uprooting and sending the ground tiles flying in all directions!

The poor celestial was startled. As soon as he was caught by the torrential windforce, he was seized by a powerful force that immediately cracked his ribs and knocking him backward!

That was not the end!

The Immortal Sword Sages and all the celestials that were closest to the hall had all either crumbled to the ground or were trembling with shock after they had tried to deflect the flying tiles!

The Immortal Sword Aegis’ fingers were still trembling after he had used his sword fingers to deflect the flying tiles while the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had just coughed out a bout of fresh blood!

All the other celestials turned pale immediately!

It was because that unfortunate celestial that had tried to flee was known as the Ironclad Reverend. His Divine Ironclad Skill was impervious to martial force yet this seemingly harmless old man had tossed him so

easily into the air and had even injured him!

That was not all. For that old man to injure two of the Immortal Sword Sages, his martial level must be in the ultra powerful list of celestial exponents!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage asked respectfully, “Senior, you are an Ancient Celestial? May we know your celestial name? We don’t mean to intrude on your quiet mediation but it is important that the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan has the Blue Heavens back. It belongs to us since antiquity.”

The Universal Old Man pretended to act haughty as he said coolly, “I have long retired so there is no need for you to know my celestial name. However I am acquainted with the Immortal Saint of Swords and won’t be harsh towards you.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage asked, “You know the Immortal Saint of Swords?”

The Universal Old Man grinned, “Of course I know him. He is one of the seven most powerful celestials in the past. He is an Ancient Celestial just like me.”

Lingfeng laughed softly but her soft laughter echoed in everyone’s ears, “Old Man, you can no longer resist making a move? These little juniors are getting on your nerves?”

All the visiting celestials were quiet. They had suddenly remembered that they were in the presence of two Ancient Celestials and from the martial display of the old man, they were no ordinary Ancient Celestials!

The Universal Old Man protested, “This is after all, my protégé’s wedding day. I have no wish for anyone to spoil such an auspicious day...”

The Ascension Goddess looked at Lingfeng and all of a sudden, she had a mischievous smile. “Universal Old Man, thank you...Oops...I really forget...”

Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man were startled as they looked at the Ascension Goddess.

All of a sudden, the hall exploded into a flurry of loud chatter that took quite a long while to die away.

It was because the Universal Old Man was one of the seven most powerful celestial fighters long ago!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage shook his head, "There is really someone who is superior and a heaven above a heaven. Senior, it is said that you are a fair person unlike the other celestials. I hope Senior you will give us a fair hearing today!"

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly as he looked at the Ascension Goddess. He thought, "That is precisely why I don't want anyone to know who I am...alas! These cunning celestials talk about righteousness only when they require it and talk about might when they can deploy it to their advantage. I want to teach these juniors a lesson a long time ago..."

It seemed that the Ascension Goddess had made an error in judgment. It was not the effect that she had hoped and she was immediately sorry.

Lingfeng comforted her with the Great Whispering Skill, "That is alright. Don't feel sad about this."

The Ascension Goddess was comforted as she looked down shyly...

Lingfeng whispered to her companions, "Don't tell them who I am please. Let this old man handle this himself."

The Universal Old Man whispered to the Heaveness, "I can't whisper to everyone like you. You are not helping me?"

Lingfeng whispered with a soft chuckle, "I don't want to. This is also my wedding day today and I don't want to dirty my hands or waste my stamina for this."

The Universal Old Man whispered, "You...! Alas! We have been friends for so long and you are leaving me in a lurch..."

Lingfeng whispered unhappily, "This is nothing that you cannot handle yourself. I haven't settled my score with you yet. How long have you been peeking at me all this while?"

The Universal Old Man panicky whispered, “This...no wait. I can explain. I did come to you when you have return to the Celestial Realm, am I right...wait...let me settle this first...”

The Universal Old Man cleared his throat as he looked intently at all the visiting celestials, “Oh well...”

All of a sudden, Lingfeng rose from the throne seat as she rose quietly. “Careful everyone...”

Even the Ascension Goddess was trembling as she muttered, “Such strong energy aura. It is as though the entire air is being electrified by this type of sword energy aura...”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage laughed, “It seems that our protégé patriarch is here.”

The Deadly Wanderer stammered, “The Immortal Saint of Swords is here?!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords was also one of the seven most powerful celestials of past antiquity and was the contemporary of the Universal Old Man!

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly, “Since you are here, why don’t you come in?”

There was a rumbling as the entire floor began to shake as though there was an earthquake!

A thunderous yet gentle voice was reverberating, “I am not deaf or senile. Why should I want to enter the hall knowing that there is a Celestial Star Annihilating Formation that is waiting for me? Moreover, I don’t want to waste my strength fighting two difficult to handle opponents, am I right?”

Everyone was startled at his powerful Thousand Mile Resonant Skill!

This Immortal Saint of Swords was a legendary swordsman in the Celestial Realm and an Ancient Celestial of antiquity. There was a reason why he was ranked among the seven most powerful celestials of past

antiquity.

Yi Ping asked, "Senior, may I know what brings you here? Surely you are not here to attend my wedding?"

The Universal Old Man remarked coldly, "He is just too free. If you are a hero, then you should show yourself."

But the Immortal Saint of Swords ignored the remarks and instead answered, "Why am I here? I am here to retrieve the Blue Heavens Divine Sword. This divine sword is my companion sword for a long time before I have ascended. Therefore you should hand over quietly to the rightful owner."

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "I have already become one with the Blue Heavens and my future attainment will be severely impaired if I surrender it to you. Moreover, it is I who has brought the Blue Heavens to the Celestial Realm. Who is the undisputed owner is quite obvious. As a highly attain celestial, why don't you let go of the past? The Blue Heavens don't belong to you now."

The Immortal Saint of Swords voice reverberated with thunderous rage, "I have endured countless heavenly tribulations without finding a breakthrough to the Gods' Realm. Only those that had been that endless cycle understands how frustrating it can be! How many of the original Ancient Celestials are left now? It is just a handful of us! Universal Old Man, Heaveness, do you understand my frustrations?"

The Universal Old Man and the Heaveness had a sudden sorrow in their eyes. How could they not know his frustrations? They had reached the limits of their divinity and would be destroyed by their heavenly tribulations if they could not find a way to ascend soon.

The Heaveness had chosen to end her celestial divinity in the past rather than experienced the deadly heavenly wrath again.

While the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness were lamenting over their failures to overcome their present state of divinity, the visiting celestials were gasping with shock. It was because the Heaveness was also one of the seven most powerful celestials of past antiquity!

The Northern Tyrant, the Deadly Wanderer, the three Immortal Sword Sages and the Four Reverend Elders of the Holy Ascension Sect were also shocked beyond belief; the alluring maiden that was standing so elegantly was actually the Heaveness!

This was the second time that they were stunned consecutively. Knowing that this old man was actually the Universal Old Man was the first stunner and knowing that this alluring maiden was the Heaveness was the seconder stunner!

Many of the visiting celestials were smiling bitterly now and wished that they had not come after all. It seemed that they were all caught in a titanic battle between two major factions now!

Lingfeng the Heaveness said quietly, "I am sure that you will not give up so easily on the Blue Heavens but at the same time even though you may have the ability to break the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation, you are reluctant to waste your martial strength to do so."

The Immortal Sword of Saints reverberated, "That's right. I don't wish to waste my martial strength to break a celestial formation as formidable as the Celestial Star Annihilation unless it is to save my clan protégés and at the same time, I don't wish to fight the two of you yet. I am sure you don't wish to either. It is because the Stellar Sanctuary is descending soon and we are hoping to conserve as much strength as possible for it."

The visiting celestials that did not know that the Stellar Sanctuary was descending were startled and were gasping in astonishment!

Only the most powerful celestials were able to divine the next coming of the Stellar Sanctuary. And if the Immortal Sword of Saints had proclaimed it then it must surely be true! That was what the visiting celestials were thinking!

The Heaveness said quietly, "So if you don't wish to fight us but at the same time you want the Blue Heavens, so what are you proposing?"

There was a loud thunderous laughter as the Immortal Sword of Saints laughed aloud, sending shockwaves of his martial force throughout the hall.

After a while, his voice reverberated, “Easy. The affairs of the martial fraternity should be settled only by the rules of the martial fraternity, am I right?”

The Heaveness sighed softly, “You are suggesting that we settle it with a duel? You are the Immortal Saint of Swords. How many in the Celestial Realm is your match?”

That was the truth and not any flattering.

The Immortal Saint of Swords laughed aloud, “I don’t intend to waste my divine strength yet I don’t intend to give up the Blue Heavens. And the elder protégés of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan are not willing to give it up either. How about this? If you can defeat the three Immortal Sword Sages then I will give up the Blue Heavens. But if your side loses, then you must surrender the Blue Heavens Divine Sword willingly. What do you say?”

The Heaveness said, “That’s all? Will it be a three versus three fight or we have three duels to determine the outcome?”

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed, “We have three duels to determine the outcome but the Universal Old Man, you and that Yi Ping must not get involved at all.”

The Universal Old Man interrupted aloud, “I can understand for the Heaveness and I but Yi Ping?! Don’t tell me you fear my protégé Yi Ping or the Immortal Sword Sages are only capable of fighting against the fairer sex?”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage muttered, “This...”

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed aloud, “There is no fairer sex or weaker sex in the martial fraternity and in the celestial fraternity. Only strong and weak opponents. If you underestimate your opponents then death awaits you.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage quickly said solemnly, “Junior I, awaits grand patriarch instructions!”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said at

the same time, “Junior I too, will awaits further for grand patriarch instructions!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords laughed aloud and his echoes shook the grand hall, “Good! Good! Life and death is predestined. If anyone falls in battle today, then it is his or her fate!”

Yi Ping exclaimed angrily, “There are no reasons why I cannot join in the duel! I will rather fight in all three duels than watch my love ones get hurt in front of me!”

Immediately, almost all the maidens were either clenching their hands to their bosoms or were gasping, touched deeply by Yi Ping.

Yu’Er said aloud, “Master Yi Ping, we will take care. Moreover, we only need to win two out of three times for a complete victory. We do have some strong exponents on our side!”

Mei’Er smiled tenderly, “That’s right. Don’t we have Sister Qing’Er, the Ascension Goddess and our protégés mistress the Celestial Fairy here? I really don’t believe that they can gain much advantage over us!”

The Ascension Goddess smiled bitterly as she thought, “These three Immortal Sword Sages aren’t as easy to deal with even if we are all armed with divine swords...”

Yi Ping shouted defiantly and his eyes were burning with the fire of righteousness, “What is the reason why I cannot be involved in the duel? Unless I am given a good reason, I am not convinced at all!”

Lingfeng muttered, “Yi Ping...”

Lele asked, “Yes, I am curious to know why too!”

Dugu Yunzi asked quietly, “The Universal Old Man and the Heaveness I can understand why. But why is Ping’Er being excluded from the duels?”

All the visiting celestials were curious as well!

Xuan Kong said, “We need some enlightenment as well!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed solemnly, “That is because he is an epitome celestial exponent. If he joins, then this fight won’t be fair at

all.”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “This is the first time that someone calls me an epitome celestial exponent. This is something that I don’t even know myself!”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “My protégé is an epitome celestial exponent? How can’t I am not aware of it at all?”

The Ascension Goddess was secretly startled...

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed coldly, “Eyes can be deceiving but there are certain things that cannot be hidden. Earlier, his martial shout can actually dissipated the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Auras. Do you have any idea how refine the negative sword energies of the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Auras is? That is not something a mere celestial can dissipate at any time!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “Maybe I was just being lucky...”

The Immortal Saint of Swords laughed and the entire hall shook again, “Lucky?! That is true divine strength! If you have exercised your martial power, the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Auras won’t be able to harm you at all. Moreover much earlier you have displayed the Asper Continuum Horizon Hands, not once, not twice but five times! I am afraid that even the most powerful celestial is unable to display this technique more than three times consecutively!”

Yi Ping was startled, “You know the name of my Asper Continuum Horizon Hands?!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed regretfully, “The techniques of the Horizon Heaven Clan. How do I not know? I am acquainted with your clan patriarch in the past. He is an Ancient Celestial too but he had perished in the Stellar Sanctuary a long time ago. All the secret epitome techniques of the Horizon Hands are extremely draining. That is its weakness. If you met an opponent that is on par with you and if you are unable to overcome him with the Divine Horizon Hands, then death only awaits you!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "Since I have such a weakness, then you shouldn't have forbid me to join in the duels."

Lele agreed and she said coldly, "That's right! Don't tell me you have a merciful heart. I don't believe it."

The Immortal Saint of Swords was humming coldly and his chilling aura could be felt, "Anyone that exerts their martial strength won't recover this quick. Moreover, exertion of martial strength takes a far longer time to recuperate. But this Yi Ping, look at him. He doesn't seem to be exerted at all and is looking as fresh and spirited as before!"

Yi Ping was startled as he thought, "That's right. Earlier, after I have used the Asper Continuum, I really felt so exhausted. But now, it seems as though that I have never used the Asper Continuum at all..."

All the maidens were all startled! They had all failed to notice it!

The Universal Old Man was muttering, "That's right..."

Yi Ping's martial force had long evolved into the Absolute Equilibrium Force which had the effect of replenishing his martial power and vital energies at a rapid rate! However, most high level celestials like the Universal Old Man, the Heaveness, the Immortal Sword Sages, the Immortal Saint of Swords, the Northern Tyrant, Shen Xingyue etc. all possessed the ability to replenish their martial power fairly quickly.

However, the very act of replenishing the martial strength of the practitioner would consume a great deal of mental energies and tired the practitioner. So between replenishing of martial strength, fighting against physical exhaustion and fighting against mental exhaustion were itself a delicate balance between these three conditions!

The skill of the Heaveness, the Divine Invigorate was a martial skill that could regain the mental strength of the practitioner, lessening the effects of physical exhaustion. However without rest and time to recuperate, there could only slow down mental exhaustion.

But Yi Ping was still looking spirited as though he had just been rested!

What were his limits?

The Ascension Goddess had a sudden thought and she was gasping, “Can it be...”

A thought had struck her, “Can it be the Forget Affection Wine?”

Yi Ping had an overdose of the deadly Forget Affection Wine. While it was true that the Forget Affection Wine could boost the practitioner’s vital energies, only a moderate consumption was to be recommended for an overdose would not only bring harm, it could also burn out the vital energies of the practitioner and crippled the practitioner martial skills permanently!

When Yi Ping had an overdose of the deadly Forget Affection Wine, his life was in mortal danger. It was only with the intervention of both the Ascension Goddess and the Celestial Fairy that they were able to save him!

It so happened that the Icy Heavenly Tears of the Celestial Fairy and the Despairing Aura of the Ascension Goddess were both extremely pure negative energies skill that they could neutralize the burning fires of the pure fiery positive energies of the Forget Affection Wine. If Yi Ping only had the aid of one, then he would still be in mortal danger. Even if he survives the ordeal, his martial skills would be impaired permanently.

Because the Celestial Fairy and the Ascension Goddess were also chaste maidens, they not only managed to save Yi Ping, they had also received the benefits of the Forget Affection Wine as well! However, at this moment of time they did not know of it yet. They only did what they could do to save Yi Ping and did not know of it. Moreover, there was no precedent in what Yi Ping did!

A combination of factors and a combination of epitome skills like the Absolute Spirits Heart Intricacy Formula and the Forget Affection Wine had transformed Yi Ping’s potential and the pureness of his vital Absolute Equilibrium Force to a completely new level of attainment that even Yi Ping was not aware of!

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed again, “Moreover, have you ever seen anyone like him that can wield two divine swords at the same time?”

Everyone was startled and were all looking at Yi Ping curiously...

But Yi Ping quickly said, "Divine swords are rare. It doesn't mean others can't wield two divine swords if just a few practitioners had tried and could not."

The Immortal Saint of Swords seemed to be losing his patient as he thundered aloud, "So shall we proceed with the duels then?"

Yi Ping protested, "I didn't say I agree..."

Lingfeng interrupted, "Yi Ping, this may be the only peaceful way out. We may not lose."

Shen Xingyue smiled, "Ping'Er, I am the cause of this and I should be the one ending it. Say no more."

Yi Ping muttered, "Xingyue..."

Yixian said gently, "Ping'Er, don't worry for us. I am content to be with you no matter how brief. I..."

She was suddenly flushing and Lie Qing was laughing softly, "Oh my sister, you...!"

But she quickly added, "Ping'Er, have you no confidence in us?"

Yi Ping was suddenly flustered when he noticed that Lie Qing was smiling tenderly at him as he stammered, "No, no..."

Lie Qing smiled coyly, "Let's us settle in this manner then!"

Yi Ping sighed softly, "That not what I mean..."

Lele said gently, "Yi Ping, don't worry alright? Or else we can't concentrate on the strong foes."

Yi Ping sighed as he realized the seriousness of his hesitation, "Be careful then..."

But he was secretly determined to intervene in the duels!

Lie Qing laughed softly, "So who among us will go first?"

Dugu Yunzi had suddenly stepped forward, "I will be the first then!"

Yi Ping was startled and so were the rest!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had already stepped forward as he said coldly, "I will be your opponent then!"

Lie Qing was stunned as she quickly said, "Sister Yun, I will take your place. Go back please!"

But Dugu Yunzi said quietly, "There is no turning back. Moreover, I don't wish to stay in the shadows of everyone. There is no room for the weak in the Stellar Sanctuary."

Yi Ping stammered, "Yunzi wait please! I don't want to lose you..."

Dugu Yunzi smiled as she drawn out her precious sword, "Ping'Er if you honor me, you have to respect my choice..."

Yi Ping was trembling nonstop and his face was wetted with his hot tears, "Yunzi..."

Chapter 97: The Infinity Swordplay vs. the Virtuous Swordplay

All the visiting celestials were looking at this lovely and demure maiden now who had stepped quietly forward. It was as though they had noticed her for the first time.

She had dull expressionless eyes but there was unfathomable intelligence within her eyes as well.

They could scarcely believe their ears and eyes when they heard her quiet firm proclamations to duel with the Immortal Sword Sages!

The Immortal Sword Sages were not only Golden Celestials but they were all ancient as well and were all at least a seventh tier celestial while this lovely maiden who carried herself with an air of magnificent dignity was only a celestial practitioner that had only reached the Emotion Level.

By all accounts, she was just an insignificant practicing celestial that possessed no threat to these mighty Golden Celestials! Even if she had a divine sword, it did not matter to these Golden Celestials. The level and power difference between them were simply too vast!

But at the same time, Yunzi was the type that could attract the attention of all the others if she made any slight move. It did not matter if she was surrounded by other extraordinary beauties! If she was alone, her extraordinary beauty would surely radiate like a rainbow!

All of a sudden, the visiting celestials were all looking at her with an extraordinary appraisal. They had suddenly noticed that this maiden had a virtuous air around her, instantly attracting their attention. They began to notice that even though she was dressed in ordinary gray attire which was devoid of any jewelries, the arrangements of her dress was extremely particular and tidy. Even her long hair was tied into many beautiful knots and with an elegant design.

Keen observers would notice that this arrangement was not simply an artistic design or arrangement and it was not easy to be loosened during a

battle!

Many of the visiting celestials were highly attained and were not interested in any Dual Celestial Practice. But somehow the elegant quiet Yunzi had the effect of making them had that second thought as they stared blankly at her delicate features and every single small movement!

Even the Northern Tyrant who was not interested in any Dual Celestial Practice was secretly thinking of bedding her and ruining this virtuous maiden. Maybe that was why Yunzi had always been attracting the wrong attentions but it was also precisely for the same reason that Yi Ping had been attracted to her quiet yet compelling air!

Yunzi blinked at Yi Ping as she said gently, "Ping'Er, don't cry. Knowing you is the happiest day of my life and moreover, the outcome is still undetermined."

Yi Ping muttered, "Yunzi...please reconsider..."

Even the Deadly Wanderer was saying, "Maiden, maybe you can reconsider. I am sure that the three Immortal Sword Sages are all eminent practitioners. They surely will not mind if you back off of your words!"

Yu'Er and Mei'Er were still recovering from the startled shock. They tried to reach to her with their Dual Inertness Intricacy but it was a complete blank.

They always had difficulty deciphering Yunzi's emotions. Yunzi was very quiet and her state of divinity was as tranquil as the Celestial Fairy, who was their protégé mistress. Even in the direst of situations, Yunzi was able to maintain her level-headed.

Lingfeng was secretly trembling but she quickly recovered her composure before anyone had noticed her. She had a sudden frightening thought, "Is Yunzi planning to sacrifice herself for our sake?"

She had been through many battles with Yunzi. Among all the maidens, Yunzi was perhaps the most virtuous among them all. She was cool, well-liked, intelligent and self-sacrificing. There were many key battles that without Yunzi to make the first decisive move, they would have either lost

or would have completely lost their courage!

In short, they had grown to be dependent for her support and she was certainly not the weakest among them!

Yunzi was a quiet maiden but in a fight, she was the most analytical and the most observant. She was the type that was willing to sacrifice for her friends and using herself as their shields to unravel the opponents' loopholes and weakness.

This had happened too many times and Yi Ping was trembling nonstop silently, "Yunzi, are you planning to sacrifice yourself so that the others can witness the sword strokes of the Immortal Sword Sages?!"

Xiao Youxue was gasping, "Sister!"

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage hummed coldly to Yunzi, "Maiden, you are simply overrating yourself!"

Yunzi lifted her eyes and looked sharply at the Immortal Sword Blitz, "Senior, I know that your finger stance is particular powerful and is more than a match for my precious sword."

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was secretly startled at her unwavering pose. It was because she was just a lowly celestial practitioner; even for most Golden Celestials, it was hard for them to maintain an unwavering pose under his watchful gaze.

So he waited for her to finish first as he was suddenly interested to hear what she was going to say.

When Yunzi saw that the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was quiet, she took it as a signal for her to continue, "Your Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Aura is already so overwhelming and your internal strength is also superior to me. Is that so?"

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage nodded quietly.

Yunzi had correctly pointed out their martial differences!

All the visiting celestials were completely allured by Yunzi's captivating voice. It was as though she had a mesmerizing hold on everyone!

Yi Ping had suddenly remembered the scene when he had first met her. She also had the same similar mesmerizing hold on everyone back then!

Yunzi added, "This is a duel and there are rules to state what type of challenges it will be right?"

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage smiled bitterly, "Maiden, if you want to challenge me to poetry or an art contest then will it be considered a martial contest?"

Yunzi replied assuring, "It will be a martial contest of course. After all, affairs of the martial fraternity are best to settle with the strength of our martial arts. If Senior does not mind at all, shall we have a contest on who has the superior swordplay? What do you think?"

All the visiting celestials, Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and the other maidens were all stunned. Swordplay was the undisrupted strength of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was renowned for his epitome swordplay!

He was known as the Immortal Sword Blitz Sword because of his extremely fast swordplay that could end the lives of his opponents in a blink of an eye. Unless the celestial practitioner had at least reached the Transverse Level, it was impossible to catch the slightest movement of his first stroke!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage asked coldly, "You are sure?"

Yunzi asked, "You dare not?"

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage roared with laughter, "Young maiden, I accept your challenge. But remember, swords are blind and I cannot promise you that I may restraint myself. I will treat you as an equally respectable opponent and don't expect me to give any leeway to you."

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was not someone who would underestimate his opponents or treat his opponents lightly. Or else, he would not be able to survive this long and became a Sword Sage!

In short, there was no chance that Yunzi would be able to exploit his momentarily carelessness!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage asked, "Your name and clan?"

Yunzi replied, "Your junior name is Dugu Yunzi. I am from the Sacred Divine Clan. It is but a lowly status clan in the lower realm and is not worth mentioning."

Indeed, no one here had heard of the Sacred Divine Clan!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage raised his fingers forward as he said, "Good! I will remember your name. I will give you the benefit of the first move!"

Yunzi nodded as she unsheathed her long precious sword and displayed a sword stance, "Then I shall not decline then!"

She inhaled a deep breath of vital energies and immediately four wisps of bluish spheres could be seen around her!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage said coldly, "The Invincible Divine Force! Unfortunately, your attainment of this divine skill is too slowly to threaten me. At most, you will be able to protect yourself from my sword energies..."

All of a sudden, Yunzi had raised her long beaming sword into danced into a zigzag display on him!

This type of swordplay attack was called the Darting Swallow Attack and was an extremely difficult maneuver to execute but Yunzi had executed it flawlessly!

Yunzi's first attack had missed the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage of course but she responded by displaying the Darting Swallow Attack again, realigning her attacks on the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage instantly!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was impressed by her swordplay to say, "Good attack!"

But this type of attack had too many weaknesses and exposed her vulnerability. While he was praising her attack moves, he had raised his fingers to stab her with his sword fingers!

In a blink of an eye, the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage sword fingers were

on her!

Yi Ping, many of the maidens and many of the visiting celestials were gasping anxiously for Yunzi! It was because the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage attacking moves were too fast that they could not even see clearly!

Yi Ping had to focus with his Absolute Spirit and the highest level of his Emptiness Translucent to get the slightest sight of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage's attacks!

Yunzi had imbued the Invincible Divine Force on her left palm and had blocked off the sword fingers of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage!

Not once, but twice, thrice!

As Yunzi blocked the attacks of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage, her vital energies were starting to reverse; it was because the sword energies and martial power of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage were really too powerful!

As the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and Yunzi began to exchange their sword and fingers furiously, the entire flooring beneath them were completely ripped off and flying in all directions!

But many of the visiting celestials, Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and the other maidens were not willing to step back as they were mesmerized by their attacking swordplay! But at the same time, they were startled how Yunzi could be able to predict the moves of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage with such uncanny accuracy, with many of the defensive stances readied before the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had even made his actually attacks!

The Ascension Goddess was startled as she thought, "She has also my superior energy sense? That is impossible. My energy sense skill is the result of centuries of energy practice and is extremely gruesome to perfect....but she seems to be able to predict all the attacking moves of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage!?"

But nevertheless, Yi Ping and the rest were all watching intently! It was because Yunzi was showing them ways of countering the Infinity Swordplay of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan!

Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and the rest of the maidens were startled that Yunzi could counter the swordplay of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage, even though it was obviously that if Yunzi could not find a way soon, she would eventually be defeated.

Yunzi and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had exchange another dozen strokes when Yunzi had suddenly coughed out blood and exposed a momentum weakness as she staggered weakly backward!

But the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage did not exploit this moment of weakness. Instead he asked coldly, “How did you know Infinity Swordplay!? Can you take my Ten Thousands Blitzing Swords?!”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage were startled that the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had actually used his secret killing technique, the Ten Thousands Blitzing Swords!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage were suddenly very solemn. What were they thinking?

As the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage shouted his secret technique name, he had raised his hands forward and flicker his fingers. Immediately, dozens of sword energy bursts shot towards Yunzi!

The air around him burst forth with deadly sword energies and many of the celestials quickly moved backward for fear of getting injured by the sword energies!

Yi Ping shouted panicky, “Yunzi!”

But Yunzi raised her precious long sword and suddenly executed her flying sword technique!

Her sword arm had flipped and rotated her long precious sword and immediately her sword had spin forth into a flying sword that was imbued entirely with deadly martial power! But this flying sword was different from usual; it was because she had imbued the martial power of the Invincible Divine Force into it!

In one instant, her flying sword had dispersed all the sword bursts of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and had flown directly at the Immortal Sword

Blitz Sage!

The visiting celestials were startled for they had never seen such a flying sword technique before!

But the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had simply raised his fingers forward and knocked the flying sword aside with his martial power!

As the flying sword was knocked aside and crushed into the ground with a thunderous impact, the flying sword had suddenly rebound with an even more powerful martial force as it absorbed the martial force of the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and redirected back at him again!

At the same time, Yunzi had taken out a hidden wrist foldable sword and had executed another flying sword at the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage. But that was not the end; she had thrown her scabbard forward into a martial power imbued flying scabbard that sped ahead of her flying sword!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was startled that he was suddenly faced with three different attacks from three different directions!

He immediately drawn out a precious sword from his back, while deflecting the two flying swords and the flying scabbard, he had also counter attack with a powerful sword energy directed at Yunzi!

This sword energy directly struck Yunzi, who saw it coming. She struggled to raise her martial power again and displayed both the Holy Amalgamate Force to neutralize the offensive force and the Invincible Divine Force as a protective shield at the same time. However, she had exhausted much of her martial power in her offensive and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage's sword energy was simply too overwhelming; she coughed out blood and was flung to the air!

Yi Ping, Yixian, Lingfeng and Youxue immediately got into action and caught hold of her!

Yi Ping was shouting, "Yunzi, are you alright?!"

Yunzi smiled weakly, "I am sorry, I...I have done everything that I can but I guess, I am still unable to defeat him..."

Yi Ping said gently to her as he channeled his internal strength to her to expel the sword energies from her, “No Yunzi, you did good. Close your eyes and rest first. There are still two duels left and we may not lose. Don’t say anymore.

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was also besides Yunzi in an instant.

Yixian said coldly, “What do you want? You have won already. Are you thinking of weeding your opponent completely?”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage sighed softly, “Don’t get me wrong. She has been afflicted by my Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energy. Only I can save her now.”

Without waiting for Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens, he had already reached out and in a blink of an eye had struck Yunzi on several of her accupoints!

His finger attacking skills were simply too astonishing!

Immediately, Yunzi coughed out black blood and at the same time, she had opened her eyes as she stared blankly at the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage.

She got up and said weakly, “Thank you Senior for showing mercy on me. You have won and I concede willingly.”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage said solemnly, “Maiden, you have won. It is a contest on swordplay. You have the superior swordplay and this flying sword technique is unique. I have never seen anything like this before. Given time, this technique of yours will surely be one of the divine sword techniques of the Celestial Realm.”

Yunzi murmured weakly, “I have won? Really?”

The visiting celestials were all startled that the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had actually conceded on his own accord!

Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man, the other maidens and all the visiting celestials were looking at the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage. They were expressionless and did not seem

to protest either.

Even Lingfeng was smiling bitterly. She could not eavesdrop on their Great Whispering Skill anymore now that the Immortal Saint of Swords was here. They seemed to be aware of her ability now and were exchanging their thoughts with their sword intentions instead!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage stroked his long white beard as he said softly, "You have forced me to use my sword. For a junior to be able to push me to that extreme, that is proof that you have indeed possessed the superior swordplay. The result actually did not matter. However, I have a question..."

All of a sudden, the hall was shaking as the Immortal Saint of Swords asked in a rumbling and earthshaking resonance, "Junior, how did you know the Infinity Swordplay? Who impart you the Infinitude Skill?! Aren't you from the Sacred Divine Clan? Is the Infinity Sword Clan still existing in the lower realm?"

Many of the maidens were startled that Yunzi had actually known of the Infinity Swordplay! No wonder she had volunteered to be the first one to duel with the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage in order to show them the weakness of the Infinity Swordplay!

Yi Ping had suddenly remembered that Zuo Tianyi had mentioned to him before that Yunzi was actually his cousin!

Yunzi said with a quiet demeanor, "I only know the basic Infinitude Skill. However, I do know the Infinity Swordplay intimately."

She paused for a while before her eyes turned sorrowful, "My grandfather is actually the Old Sword Saint of the Infinity Sword Clan!"

Yi Ping was stunned and so were Youxue, Lingfeng and Yixian who had known her for a long time! They had never heard her telling them about it but now that she had mentioned it, everything made sense!

Yunzi said weakly, "The Infinity Sword Clan is still doing good and is one of the seven major orthodox clan in the martial fraternity. As for why I know the Infinity Swordplay. My mother, Dugu Zhen...Zuo Zhen was

expelled by her father, the Old Sword Saint for falling in love with a member of the heretic clan. She has imparted the Infinity Swordplay and the basic infinitude skill to me. That is all I have to say.”

Yi Ping had suddenly remembered that it was Yunzi that had carefully instructed Zuo Tianyi in the Infinity Swordplay and she was a frequent visitor to the Infinity Sword Clan in the past!

No wonder until today, he still could not beat Yunzi in swordplay!

The origin of Yunzi’s swordplay had come from the Infinity Swordplay, the Virtuous Swordplay and the Sacred Divine Swordplay, three of the major clans in the martial fraternity!

Also, the sources of her martial strength were the Invincible Divine Force, the Holy Amalgamate Force and the Infinitude Skill!

The Immortal Saint of Swords sighed softly and the rumbling shaking ceased immediately, “Good! It has been a long time since the Zuo Clan has a member in the Celestial Realm and I have thought that the Infinity Sword Clan has ceased to exist now that the Blue Heavens Divine Sword has fallen into the hands of the others.”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage said quietly, “Maiden Yunzi, you should very well know how important this Blue Heavens Divine Sword is to the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan and to our clan patriarch, the Immortal Saint of Swords. If you still consider yourself as a bloodline of the Infinity Sword Clan, you shouldn’t have opposed us.”

Shen Xingyue sighed softly...

But Yunzi replied as she took a quick glance at Shen Xingyue and Yi Ping, “There are still two more duels left. Let fate determines the outcome...”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage immediately stepped forward, “I will be the next in line for the duel but don’t expect me to show any mercies or accept any other challenges!”

Yixian, Shen Xingyue, Lie Qing and the Ascension Goddess had all stepped forward at the same time!

But Yixian the Celestial Fairy had pushed Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess back with her Divine Emerald Force as she stepped forward, “I will be your next opponent then!”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er were gasping, “Protégé mistress!”

Yi Ping was startled, “Xian’Er!”

Chapter 98: The Eternal Heavenly Tears

Shui Yixian had displayed the Divine Emerald Skill to gain a head start over Shen Xingyue, the Ascension Goddess and Lie Qing as she stood gracefully in the middle of the hall.

The second challenger was also another celestial practitioner and not a Golden Celestial! She was marked by her crimson eyes but her dignified air was that of a superior celestial practitioner!

The three Immortal Sword Sages smiled bitterly. It was because these juniors did not seem to know their limitations and were challenging the titans of the Celestial Realm!

The reason why Yunzi was spared from the worst was because right from the very start, all three of the Immortal Sword Sages and the Immortal Saint of the Swords were aware that she was related to the Infinity Sword Clan!

The Immortal Saint of the Swords had secretly used his Great Whispering Skill via his sword intentions to the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage, "This maiden seems to know our sword arts. Be lenient on her. Also, don't communicate with your Great Whispering Skill. The Heavenness has a Great Listening Divine Skill. We shall communicate via our sect Infinitude Sword Intentions instead."

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage had conceded because they were still confident of a victory. Moreover, this Maiden Yunzi was destined to carry on their mantle and they were secretly aiding her.

The Immortal Saint of the Swords willed through his epitome sword intentions, "She is the one! The one that will succeed us! Our Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energy is still incomplete. Our Infinitude Divine Skill seems to be missing something. That's it! The Celestial Force and the Invincible Divine Force! The Celestial Force is a divine skill that can absorb energies while the Invincible Divine Force is an external martial force skill that can expulse energies! Our Infinitude Divine Skill is the energy core. Only a practitioner that could absorb and expulse energies

will be able to reach the highest level of the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energy; the Six Extreme Energy Pulses!”

He paused for a while and added solemnly, “...She is more precious than the Blue Heavens Divine Sword!”

The three Immortal Sword Sages were excited as well! If Yunzi could join them, then they would have someone to explain to them the mysteries of the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies!

In the meantime, the attentions of the visiting celestials were now on Yixian as they observed this heavenly maiden with interest. Since the visiting celestials had entered the hall, they had already noticed her; her graceful beauty and stunning porcelain beauty had already made many curious.

Even though she may be just a lowly celestial practitioner as indicated by her crimson eyes, she held her own with her mesmerizing grace and some of the Golden Celestials felt that she was an even more superior celestial than them!

Now that she had volunteered to take the second challenge, some of the visiting celestials took this as an opportunity to get her attention!

The Deadly Wanderer mustered his courage to say aloud, “Maiden, you ought to consider first. You have seen the sword arts of the Immortal Sword Sages...”

Yixian smiled gently and her eyes were full of appreciation for this warning.

Immediately, the Deadly Wanderer could feel his heart warming and he was smiling at her.

But Yixian said firmly, “Thank you but I have already made up my mind.”

The Northern Tyrant sighed softly, “This is really not a laughing matter. The three Immortal Sword Sages have already restraint themselves.”

Even Lie Qing was worried for her as she said quietly from behind,

“Sister, let me battle on your behalf. My sword skills aren’t that bad.”

That was true. Among all the maidens, only the Ascension Goddess and Lie Qing had attained to the sword energies level. There was no doubt that Lie Qing was an expert in swordplay!

But Yixian said quietly, “Qing’Er, the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies is a pure internal energies art and is one of the highest levels of the Infinitude Divine Skill. Even though your external martial force is powerful, it is not advisable for you to put on a prolong fight against it. And...”

She gazed at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage before adding gently, “He is not an opponent to be treated lightly.”

Lie Qing shuddered lightly as she looked away. Yixian had correctly pointed out her weakness. If she could not break down her opponent’s defenses then she would have exhausted her martial power trying to defend against the deadly Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies! But that was not all, she had no confident against the attacking speed of the Immortal Sword Sages even though Yunzi had already shown them a number of possible ways to defend against their sword attacks!

Yi Ping was clenching his divine swords and he was trembling while thinking miserably, “Xian’Er, you must win...”

Yunzi was still clinging to Yi Ping and she had noticed his anxiety. She whispered softly, “Ping’Er, Sister Xian’Er will surely be alright. I am sure that she will be able to absorb fifty percent of the strokes that I have deliberately displayed.”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping recalled that Yixian was the one that had caught him the Listening Rhythm!

The Listening Rhythm was a secret skill of the Eternal Ice Palace developed to follow the attacking strokes of the opponents. It was because the skills of the Eternal Ice Palace emphasis more on defense than offense!

But as Yi Ping looked at Yixian, he was stunned!

He seemed to see a white shimmering halo around her and this shimmering glow reminded him of his dear mother!

Yi Ping blinked his eyes several times...

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was solemn as he said, "I am the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. I am also the seventh protégé grandmaster of the Infinity Sword Clan in the lower realm. I was also a Celestial Sword Sage of the Infinity Swordplay."

The visiting celestials were gasping. The duel would start as soon as the opponents had formally introduced themselves!

Yixian said softly, "I am the Celestial Fairy and also the Emerald Mistress of the Eternal Ice Palace. I also have an affinity with the Melody Palace in the past."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said coldly, "I have never heard of the Eternal Ice Palace. However, that does not mean that I will treat my opponents lightly."

He paused for a while, "The divine sword that is with you is really the Heavenly Earth Sword?"

Yixian nodded gently.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said coldly, "Maiden, you are advised to use your divine sword."

Yixian smiled gently, "What if I refuse to?"

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage replied coldly, "Then you will die!"

Yixian answered coldly, "We see."

The Heavenly Earth Sword was a divine sword that contained the universal force within its sheath. Yixian was aware of it but these celestials were not aware of it. It was a secret that she was not willing to reveal in their presence or else the results would be disastrous!

The Heavenly Earth Sword was the heritage artifact of the Melody Palace. It was not only the mover of the powerful Celestial Star Annihilation Formation, this divine sword was also able to aid the

practitioner in overcoming their divine tribulations.

In other words, if the other celestial practitioners had this divine sword then they would not need to fear the worst of their heavenly tribulations, they would also be able to advance their celestial divinity!

All of a sudden, a terrifying aura burst forth from the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage; his killing malevolent aura was extremely intensifying.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said coldly, "Then maiden, don't blame me."

The visiting celestials were all gasping, "So this is the real power of the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies!"

However, Yixian maintained her composure and did not panic. Instead, she lifted her finger and neutralized the deadly malevolent energies with the martial force of her Jade Icy Fingers!

Immediately, the entire hall was filled with electrifying cold malevolent airs that creep into the hearts of all the onlookers!

No one could tell which malevolent air had come from whom. The atmosphere was extremely tense and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Celestial Fairy were both surrounded continuously by an icy cold wind that spiraled upward!

Yixian's long skirt and long hair were fluttering into the air; she was like a Heavenly Goddess that did not belong anywhere else. Her expressions were serene and for a moment, everyone seemed to have forgotten that she was now involved in a life and death battle!

Both the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Celestial Fairy had displayed a finger stance each and their air was filled with their invisible sword intentions!

Even though they were both motionless but they were both in a precarious situation. Any false move or weakness would be fatal! They were both engaging in a mental duel which was even more grueling than a physical duel!

Their internal energies were on a par!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage could not believe his eyes! This maiden's internal energies were on the same level as him!

Yixian had displayed the tenth level of her Icy Heavenly Tears with her tenth level of her Jade Icy Fingers!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage asked solemnly, "What is the name of your internal martial art?"

Yixian replied gently, "This is the Icy Heavenly Tears."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, "Good! This extreme cold negative energy of yours is able to rival my Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies. Then I shall not withhold anymore."

When he had said that, he had suddenly flickered his fingers!

Immediately, dozens of bursts of sword energies particles sped towards the Celestial Fairy!

The Celestial Fairy immediately raised her hands and raised her fingers in rapid successions as she displayed the Divine Emerald Skill and the Jade Icy Fingers at the same time!

Immediately, there were several implosions caused by the martial power between the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Celestial Fairy. As the implosions were created, the energy bursts were turned into icicles and chilling cold waves exploded in all directions!

All the onlookers immediately displayed a defensive stance or stepped backward as the cold energy waves were charged with deadly sword energies.

Yi Ping immediately raised his martial power and displayed the Asper Horizon Hand to protect Yunzi but he too, was forced to take three steps backward!

He gasped, "This sword energies...I have never seen anything like this!"

Yu'Er and Mei'Er had already taken out their divine swords and displayed a defensive stance to protect the rest!

The other visiting celestials were all startled as well!

Two of the Golden Celestials were accidentally caught in the aftermath of the cold energy shockwaves and had suffered grievous injuries. They would have been killed if Xuan Kong had not used his martial force to send them flying backward in time!

As everyone was scurrying backward, exercising their martial powers or raising their weapons to deflect the cold piercing sword energies, Yixian and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had already engaged in close melee; they were already exchanging blows furiously!

Yi Ping raised his hands in front of him to block the speeding icicles and pebbles that were flying in all directions while anxiously trying his best to observe the duel.

The visiting celestials were startled that this Celestial Fairy was able to exchange more than a hundred blows with the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage. It was something that they had not expected!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was startled that the Celestial Fairy had ingeniously materialized his invisible sword energies into icicles before deflecting it harmlessly aside. It was because there was no force in the entire world that could absorb or neutralize the deadly piercing invisible sword energies, the exception being another equal powerful burst of sword energies.

The numbers of sword energies bursts were too much even for the Celestial Fairy to evade. Therefore she had used her Jade Icy Fingers to halt the speeding sword energies bursts and through her Icy Heavenly Tears, had materialized the invisible sword energies into icicles before deflecting it from her with her Divine Emerald Skill. The martial strength of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was even more startling and astonishing than the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage lifted his entire internal strength and lifted his fingers, "Ley Negative Sword First Stroke!"

Immediately, a powerful sword energies burst forth from his second and middle fingers as it struck against the fingers of the Celestial Fairy!

The Celestial Fairy felt a powerful sword energies bursting through her Divine Emerald Skill and shattering her Divine Emerald Force. Immediately, she coughed out blood as she evaded backward!

Yi Ping was startled, “Yixian!”

But the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage did not stop there as he said coldly, “That is just the first stroke of the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies, the Ley Negative Sword First Stroke. This is the Ley Negative Sword Second Stroke...”

When he had said that, he had drawn two circular waves of blue hues in the air and these blue hues burst forth into two deadly sword energies towards Yixian!

The entire flooring was completely ripped apart as the two bluish sword energies attacks sped towards Yixian who barely recovered just in time to evade the attacks!

The Immortal Zealot Sage was not about to give up as he attacked relentlessly with the Ley Negative Second Stroke, sending a dozen bluish sword energies flying towards her!

Yixian gasped softly. It was because she had never encountered such a powerful sword energies practitioner before. Moreover, his martial level was completely differently from Lie Qing who needed to pause between her energy attacks.

With difficulty, she mustered her vital energies and barely managed to evade again!

She was startled that there were now eight bluish sword energies flying in circular motion around the hall with startling speed, ripping apart everything in its path and not dissipating!

Lie Qing was stunned as she panicked said, “Sister Yixian needs help. Someone help her please...”

The middle of the hall was filled with deadly sword energies flying in a circular motion. To barge into the middle of the duel now, was suicide!

Yi Ping had already stepped forward as he gasped his divine swords tightly while muttering, “Why didn’t these sword energies dissipated? It is impossible...”

The Ascension Goddess tapped Yi Ping gently on his shoulder, “Wait a little longer please...if you intervene in the duel, Yixian will surely lose her focus and her life for sure.”

Yi Ping sighed exasperatingly...

Yi Ping’s question was soon answered as the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, “As long as I maintain the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies with my internal power, my Ley Negative Sword Energies will never dissipate! I must admit that your swiftness skill is really extraordinary but can you handle my Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke?”

As he said that, he had leapt next to the Celestial Fairy and had brought down his sword fingers onto her in a beaming golden stroke!

Yixian could feel that this Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke was even more powerful than the two previous strokes as she thought, “It is impossible that he can maintain these sword energies so effortlessly. If I persist, can I emerge out of this? Or our martial level differences are really too vast? I have already extended my Icy Heavenly Tears, my Divine Emerald Force and my Jade Icy Fingers to its zenith...”

She dared not be careless. She quickly raised her sword scabbard to receive the incoming attack with her entire martial power. It was because she knew that she had been out maneuvered by him and were surrounded by his deadly sword energies and could not evade anymore.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, “It is useless. The Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke is unstoppable and unblockable...”

All of a sudden when the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had struck her sword scabbard, there was powerful thunderous shockwave that burst forth in all directions thunderously, shattering all the sword energies that were in the middle of the hall throughout the entire hall!

The solid walls of this entire hall were made of White Celestium, the hardest stone in the Celestial Realm. But even that, cracks began to splinter all over as the entire hall began to shake violently!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage immediately surrounded themselves with their powerful Ley Negative Sword Energies to neutralize the raging outbursts of sword energies while the visiting celestials were all taking immediate action to avoid or neutralizing it!

Yi Ping, Lele, the Ascension Goddess, the Universal Old Man, Lingfeng and the other maidens had all displayed all their martial skills in order to avoid injuries!

Lingfeng said panicky, "There is no time to be wasted. Behind me!"

She had immediately sprung forward and had executed the Divine Invigorate Force to dissipate the hundreds of speeding sword energies that were flying in all directions!

When the dust and debris had cleared, dozens of the visiting celestials were on the ground!

Some were moaning while some were no longer breathing!

It was a terrible catastrophe!

In the middle of the hall, the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was clenching his chest and there was trickle of blood at the side of his lips! He was startled of the sudden backlash. When he had struck the Heavenly Earth Sword with his Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke, there was a rebound force so powerful that it shattered his Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke in all directions. At the same time because of this reversal, all the sword energies that were swirling in circular motion around the hall were also dispersed in all directions!

Yixian was still breathing feebly and was gripping the Heavenly Earth Sword tightly. She had been wounded by multiple bursts of sword energies. It was a miracle that she was still alive!

It was a lucky thing that that the Icy Heavenly Tears internal skill was a

martial skill that could neutralize external energies force or else Yixian would have been killed instantly when she was caught in the middle of the dispersing sword energies shockwaves. This had to do with the fact that she had also received the essence of the Divine Dragon Pill from Yi Ping or else in her current martial state, she would not have survived!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was stunned as he looked blankly at the Celestial Fairy. He was still trying to figure out what was actually happening!

The Immortal Saint of Swords willed his sword intentions solemnly to the Immortal Sword Sages, "There is only one force that can counteract the Six Extreme Energy Pulses and that is the Universal Force! Now I finally understand why the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation is so deadly. When the Universal Force is in motion, there is no force that is able to stop it. No wonder, so many celestial practitioners had fallen to it in the past. I have thought that it is because their celestial practice isn't good enough. Now I know better. We must seize the Heavenly Earth Sword!"

The Immortal Zealot Sage willed in agreement but he was soon aware that Yi Ping was staring at him coldly!

But he ignored Yi Ping's stares and his own injuries as he attacked Yixian again with the intention of seizing the Heavenly Earth Sword!

Yixian could barely stand but she still maintained her graceful posture as she lifted her entire internal strength despite her injuries, meeting the attacks of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage with dozens of defensive strokes and counter strokes!

Everyone had barely recovered from the initial shockwave before the entire hall began to shake violently again!

It was because when the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Celestial Fairy had clashed again, there were ripples of exploding burst of violent shockwaves exploding each time their fingers had struck against one another!

With every clash, Yixian had found herself on the retreat. It was

because her martial strength could not meet the martial strength of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage! Moreover, she had already over-exerted herself and her internal injuries were not light!

It was only sheer luck and because of her quick movements that she could persist this far. But she was already perspiring and thinking, “Is this the end of me?”

She took a momentarily glance at Yi Ping and noticed his anxiety immediately. He was shaking all over and looked like he could dash into the duel at any time!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage interrupted her thoughts with a martial shout, “How about receiving my Ley Negative Sword Second Stroke again?”

Immediately, two beaming sword energies had burst forth from his fingers and flew with astonishing speed towards the Celestial Fairy!

Yixian’s martial strength was faltering. She raised her Heavenly Earth Sword to deflect the two bursts of sword energies with her Divine Emerald Force, worsening her internal injuries!

She coughed out more blood as she evaded backward but the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was on her again!

Yixian thought, “I have already lost half of my internal strength and can no longer neutralize his sword energies with my Jade Icy Fingers. If I draw out the Heavenly Earth Sword, I may hold on a little longer but that will automatically trigger the Celestial Star Annihilated Formation and many innocent lives will be lost...”

“If Sister Yichi is here, what will she do?”

All of a sudden, the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage shouted. “Ley Negative Sword Sixth Stroke! Wavering Energy Attack!”

A powerful burst of sword burst had erupted from his sword fingers and erupted from the ground into a sword energy wave that sped towards the Celestial Fairy!

Yi Ping was startled and he had dashed in front of Yixian with his body!

All the maidens were gasping!

Judging from the strength of this sword energies, it was definitely powerful enough to rip any opponent into halve and Yi Ping had just dashed in front of Yixian!

All of a sudden, Yixian had turned Yi Ping around and had shattered the fatal sword wave energies into icicles with her fingers, stunning all the onlookers!

Even Yi Ping was stunned as he muttered, “We are alive?” and he could suddenly feel an extremely cold aura around them which was vaguely familiar to him!

His heart was suddenly pounding. It was because this aura had reminded him of the Eternal Heavenly Tears, a consummated internal art skill that his mother Yichi had once utilized!

To Yixian, it was a gambit and she was unsure if it would work. When she saw that Yi Ping was alright, she smiled gently at him before fainting from sheer exhaustion in his embrace.

What had actually happened?

When Yixian saw that Yi Ping was in mortal danger, she was panicky. All of a sudden, she had displayed more than the internal heart intricacy of the Icy Heavenly Tears. Her opponent was too strong and she needed something more. And in that crucial moment, she had pushed her Icy Heavenly Tears to an entire new level, the Eternal Heavenly Tears!

Yichi had once left behind the Ultimate Icy Heavenly Tears intricacy theories in a cave that was in the Heavenly Mountains; it so happened that Yi Ping and Yixian had accidentally discovered that cave!

Needless to say, she had also left behind the intricate heart formula of the Eternal Heavenly Tears. The Eternal Heavenly Tears was a skill that was beyond her reach. But when she was struck by multiple sword energies and was in Yi Ping’s embrace, she felt a familiar feeling. It was as though her Sister Yichi was in her presence. She had suddenly

remembered the intricacy heart formulas of the Ultimate Heavenly Tears in the cave.

However, with her current practice she was still unable to divine the mysteries of the Ultimate Heavenly Tears yet. The Ultimate Heavenly Tears required the practitioner to have extremely pure and refined negative internal strength. Even the Eternal Heavenly Tears had the same requirements. So when Yixian was in a semi-conscious state, the intricate heart formula had come naturally to her as she had already memorized all of Yichi's martial theories in the cave.

She had received a boost to her internal strength when Yi Ping had transferred the essence of the Divine Dragon Pill to her. Also, when she had given up her chastity to Yi Ping, she had accidentally absorbed the essence of the Forget Affections Wine and this Forget Affection Wine had the effect of further refining the internal energy of the practitioner!

That final act was what made the Eternal Heavenly Tears possible!

Yi Ping was embracing her tearfully, "Xian'Er, Xian'Er. Rest first. I will take your place..."

Yi Ping was holding Yixian in his arms and his eyes were bloodshot!

Two other maidens had also walked quietly beside Yi Ping and they appeared to be equally upset! They were Lele and Lie Qing! Their eyes were equally bloodshot as they stared at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage!

The Immortal Zealot Sage hummed coldly, "Have you forgotten about our agreement? This is a fair duel. It is a life and death duel that is undertaken by the willing. You shouldn't have reacted in this uncultivated manner."

Yi Ping was trembling as he held Yixian tightly while transferring his internal strength to aid her. She had completely turned ashen and was extremely feeble.

Lingfeng walked next to Yi Ping as she said gently. "Leave Sister Yixian to me. I will take care of her..."

Yi Ping interrupted bitterly, "If I don't use my divine swords, can I be the

challenger instead?”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, “Can but you have to surrender the Heavenly Earth Sword.”

Yi Ping hummed coldly.

Lingfeng hummed coldly, “So that is your true intentions?”

Lele was not happy and she wanted to pull up the Heavenly Earth Sword to set the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation in motion. However Lie Qing gently shook her head and stopped her with a sharp look.

Not only Lele, both Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess were also agitated at the same time. They were saying at the same time, “Let me be your challenger then!”

Shen Xingyue said, “I am the root of this. You shouldn’t meddle in this.”

The Ascension Goddess said melancholy, “Xingyue, you have witnesses their strength. You still lack the experience to fight them. Let me challenge them alright?”

The Stellar Heavenly Fairy said softly, “I am a Golden Celestial. Surely I have the right to duel too.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, “Let’s don’t waste any more time. We have won this round. You can choose to concede if you want to if you are afraid. Lowly celestials simply do not stand a chance against us so don’t overrate yourself. So which of you will be the next challenger? Why don’t we raise the stake a little higher for the next fight?”

Yi Ping asked, “What do you mean?”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, “If you lose in the third duel, then surrender the Heavenly Earth Sword to us for safekeeping for ten years. If we lose to you, then we will be your temporary allies when the Stellar Sanctuary has descended. What do you say?”

Youxue said coldly, “Why did you want the Heavenly Earth Sword for?”

Almost no one could hide their ulterior motives from Youxue!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said, "If we have won, we have to be sure that you will surrender the Blue Heavens Divine Sword willingly and not go back on your words by initiating the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation. With the Heavenly Earth Sword in our hands, we will feel much secure. The Infinity Sword Celestial Clan is a reputable celestial clan. Surely you don't doubt us? Moreover, there are so many celestials today as witnesses. Ten years later, we will surely return you the Heavenly Earth Sword!"

Youxue hummed coldly, "I am sure there is more, am I right?"

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage refused to answer her.

The visiting celestials were all smiling bitterly. It was because many of them were already grievously injured and many of them feared that they may not be able to get out of the hall alive. Yet, none of them wanted to be the first to leave; that would mean the loss of their honor and standing in the Celestial Realm!

The Northern Tyrant had already regretted coming. He was a powerful domain lord in the Celestial Realm and not many celestials had dared to affront him. But today, there were simply too many powerful secular celestials around!

He wanted to teach Yi Ping a lesson but he had suddenly discovered that he was also not someone that he could cross too.

Meanwhile, Yi Ping had said coldly, "We don't have to up any stakes..."

The Ascension Goddess had already sped towards the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage as she raised her Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword, saying coldly. "That's right. I will be your next opponent! If I won, every time you see me you will have to address me as your grand protégé mistress too!"

Shen Xingyue gasped softly, "You...wait!"

Chapter 99: The Inverting Eternal Occurrence

Yixian gasped weakly as she regained her conscious after Lingfeng had used her Divine Invigorate Force to resuscitate her.

Shen Xingyue was thinking as she looked at her, “Even though Yixian has not cultivated as a Golden Celestial yet but her martial attainment is already so high. She is really a martial prodigy. There are different tiers even for Golden Celestials and she is on par with the Ascension Goddess and I...”

Her thoughts were quickly interrupted by the Ascension Goddess who had suddenly attacked the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage!

Shen Xingyue gasped softly, “You...wait!”

The Ascension Goddess had barely attacked the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage when she was forcibly swept aside by her opponent’s sword fingers attacks. As she stumbled several steps backward, the ground beneath her cracked and sunk into splitting fragments!

Everyone was gasping and was holding their breath!

When they saw the solid white celestium stone slabs giving way at her mere steps, everyone was secretly startled at her martial power display!

It suddenly dawned to many of the celestials that the Ascension Goddess was after all one of the new seven most powerful celestials!

And they were now witnessing a duel between one of the most powerful elder secular celestials and one of the most powerful new generation celestials. It was a duel that no one wanted to miss now, even at the risk of their life!

How powerful were they? Their martial strengths, their secret strokes, their weaknesses and how far were they from these two top celestial exponents?

Of course, part of the reasons was that the Holy Ascension Sect and the

Ascension Goddess had become a common enemy to many. The more they could know about the martial origins of the Ascension Goddess, they could eventually find a way to defeat or counter her in the future!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage was a little startled with the martial strength of the Ascension Goddess even though he was unconcerned with her as a threat. There were many powerful challengers in the past. They had even more powerful dominating aura than her and he had defeated them all.

He thought, "That is the strength of her divine sword? Or that is the strength of the Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect?"

The Ascension Goddess was secretly alarmed of the martial strength of the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage as well. But when she secretly saw the anxiety on Yi Ping as she battled the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage, she was secretly pleased.

She forced a smile as she said coldly to the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage, "Is that what you got? Can you get much better than that?"

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage hummed coldly, "You call yourself an elder of the Holy Ascension Sect and yet you have attacked without giving any warning. What an uncultivated celestial practitioner!"

The Ascension Goddess swung her divine sword backward as she stood casually, "I didn't give you a warning? I just issue you a formal challenge. Or are you deaf?"

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, "A formal challenge requires both sides to give a formal introduction..."

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, "Formal Introduction? Everyone knows you are the most eminent celestial in the entire celestial realm and everyone knows who I am. As an eminent celestial, you will surely want to give me the benefit of a first strike. Moreover, I am an uncultivated celestial."

She had admitted that she was an uncultivated celestial and that immediately invited several amusements from the visiting celestials.

Far from being an unsophisticated celestial, the Ascension Goddess in her white gold celestial long dress outfit was the most refined and sophisticated celestial maiden that most of the celestials had ever seen. Her spectacular beauty, beautiful igniting golden eyes and long braided flowing hair was so stunning that she was simply a delight to watch.

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage said coldly, “I have three martial principles. One, I won’t duel with the opposite gender. Two, I won’t duel with someone beneath me. Three, I won’t duel with an uncultivated person.”

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, “I see. That’s interesting.”

Yi Ping was smiling unwittingly. It was because she had suddenly made light of an otherwise solemn atmosphere. He began to see a side of her that he had never noticed before.

Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Lele, Lie Qing and Lingfeng were giggling!

That was because the Ascension Goddess had just broken all three of the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage’s martial code and her only remark was that it was interesting!

It was obviously she was mocking the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage!

Even though all the other maidens were all smiling but they were also consciously wary of the intentions of the Ascension Goddess who was a complete enigma to them. Would she lose intentionally or she had another intention in mind by challenging the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage? But then, none of them had any confident against him and even the Heaveness had not recovered her true martial strength yet and was using an empty scheme known as the ‘Vacant City Strategy’ to disguise her martial weakness by feigning an essential loftiness.

Lingfeng was secretly afraid that the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue would see through her feint given their state of divinity...

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage continued coldly, “But today, I am going to make an exception of my martial code to duel with you.”

The Ascension Goddess smiled, “You are welcome!”

There were many visiting celestials that wished for the death of the Ascension Goddess for various reasons. But today after witnessing so many of their compatriots that were killed, their alignments began to shift towards Yi Ping's faction instead. It was because the Three Immortal Sword Sages were simply too insolent!

Another reason was that the Ascension Goddess looked so affable in real life and not the demoness that they had imagined. But of course the main reason was that no one was expecting that the Ascension Goddess was able to defeat the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage hummed coldly, "I see how you are going to laugh when I have stripped you naked and parade you in the streets."

The Ascension Goddess causally laughed softly, "I see how you are going to react when I do the same to you too but then, it won't be a slightly."

Yi Ping was afraid that the Ascension Goddess might provoke the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage too much and that would result in a ruthless retaliation so he called out panicky to her, "Be careful!"

The Ascension Goddess beamed back with a smile, gesturing empathically. "I...I will! Ping'Er, you haven't asked me for my name yet!"

Yi Ping was flustering awkwardly all of a sudden at her sudden flirt as everyone was looking at him in envy!

The Ascension Goddess was secretly flushing too as she recalled the night with Yi Ping. She distracted herself by calling aloud to the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage, "What are we waiting for?"

She had lurched herself at the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage, almost giving Yi Ping a heart attack!

Almost immediately, the sword energies aura of the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage and the despairing aura of the Ascension Goddess could be felt in all corners of the grand hall!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage had raised his sword fingers against the

divine sword of the Ascension Goddess as they began to exchange hundreds of furious shadowy flurry strokes!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage was striking with dozens of sword energies bursts against the Ascension Goddess, mixing his attacks with tens of intricate sword energies like the Ley Negative Sword Energies which was also known as the Six Extreme Energy Pulses!

His Ley Negative Sword Second Stroke was even more intricate and powerful than the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage, releasing four blue energy bursts at a time until there were now a dozen of these bluish sword energies circulating around them, lashing and destroying everything in its path!

These twelve blue sword energies were his limits as he used in combination with his other Ley Negative Sword Energies.

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage seized an attack opportunity as he shouted, "Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke!"

Immediately, a golden arc burst forth from his sword fingers. The Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke was unblockable and no martial force in the entire fraternity could defend against it!

But the Ascension Goddess did the unthinkable!

She had actually evaded it at such close proximity!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage strafed her a dozen of short energy bursts even as she evaded the Ley Negative Sword Third Stroke. Again, she did the impossible again as she evaded every single of the sword energy bursts once again even when two returning blue sword energies flux from the Ley Negative Sword Second Stroke flew suddenly towards her and missing her narrowly! It was as though she had eyes on her back!

Dozens of attacks simply just simply went past her for no apparent reason!

Everyone was stunned and their expressions turned to disbelief, including the Universal Old Man, Lingfeng, the other two Immortal Sword Sages and the four Elder Priests of the Holy Ascension Sect!

It was because the Ascension Goddess did not evade with her swiftness movement skill and all her movements could be seen clearly! In fact, she looked like she did not even attempt to evade at all even as dozens sword energies bursts simply went past her, most of it were extremely precariously close!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage raised his sword fingers as he shouted, “Ley Negative Sword Six Stroke, Ley Negative Fifth Stroke!”

But again, all his epitome attacks were futile! His attacks all had the illusion of going through to the Ascension Goddess and simply missed! It was as though he was fighting against a solid defensive wall!

Yi Ping was still recovering from his stunned look as he thought, “When I have fought against her, I also have the impression that I am fighting against a non-entity. It is like I am fighting a shadow. What is going on?”

Actually the Ascension Goddess was not having an easy time and facing the same situation too. She was defending more rather than attacking. No matter at which directions that she had initiated her attacks, the Immortal Aegis Sword Sage would always block her sword attacks with his sword fingers or his martial force. That caused her to be very much troubled and she had already lurched more than three hundreds epitome strokes at him but he was like an impassable wall with no martial weakness!

In another blink of an eye, the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage and the Ascension Goddess had exchanged dozens of strokes at point blank, exchanging their entire martial force and power as they clashed furiously!

Altogether, the Ascension Goddess had evaded more than three hundred energy strokes and intercepted another three hundred melee strokes!

That finally forced the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage to consider the use of his most secretive and most powerful killing technique, the Inverting Eternal Occurrence!

He shouted aloud, “Are you able to intercept my next attack? The Inverting Eternal Occurrence?”

When he had mentioned the Inverting Eternal Occurrence, many of the visiting celestials including the Universal Old Man and Lingfeng were startled and stunned; it was because the Inverting Eternal Occurrence was known as the most powerful sword technique in the Celestial Realm!

The Inverting Eternal Occurrence was a powerful sword technique of the Immortal Saint of Swords. In the past, there were many Ancient Celestials that had fallen victim to it and that was what had propelled the Immortal Saint of Swords to the top seven fighters list. Even though no one had never really witnessed it before, they had long heard of this mysterious swordplay! It was because those that had seen this swordplay were no longer living!

Lingfeng and the Stellar Heaven Fairy panicky called out to the Ascension Goddess, "Be careful!"

The air around the grand hall was suddenly electrifying as all the Ley Negative Sword Aura of the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage intensified all of a sudden. Immediately, there was a circular speeding mirage with intrinsic arrays hovering on the ground and in the air!

As soon as it had appeared, the entire grand hall began to shake violently again!

And before anyone could react to the mirage and what was going on, beams of intrinsic sword energies numbering hundreds shot up from the ground and from the top, pulverizing everything in its path and the Ascension Goddess was caught in the middle of the crossfire!

Yi Ping was stunned as he shouted panicky, "Wait!"

Even Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You were all shouting the same!

Chapter 100: The Immortal Saint of Swords

“Yin’Er, from today onward you will be known as the Ascension Goddess. That will be your honorific name in the Ascension Sect.” An old man who was her grand protégé master said slowly.

Ye Yin was startled as she stammered, “Master! Are you serious? In the entire Ascension Sect, only the Axis and Eclipse Heaven Goddess are known as ‘Goddess’! Moreover, I have just been initiated into the sect and?”

Her grand protégé master interrupted with a smile as he placed a finely engraved long sword in front of her, “This is a divine sword and its name is the Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword. From now on, this divine sword and you are one. Never, never lose it or your future attainment will surely be greatly affected.”

Ye Yin was stunned, “Master, this is a divine sword? I do not deserve such grace! There will surely be many that will want to take it from me. I don’t have the strength to safeguard such a precious gift...”

Her grand protégé master was solemn, “Then you will surely perish and unable to ascend to the Celestial Realm. That will be your destiny. On the other hand, if you are able to keep this divine sword with you all the way, then you will be able to ascend to the Celestial Realm and a greater destiny awaits you!”

Ye Yin gasped softly and she was almost in tears, “Master, please advise me what to do. I am really at a loss. What is going on? What is my greater destiny?”

Her grand protégé master replied slowly, “Yin’Er, you will undergo the most gruesome celestial trainings ever, even more than what the Axis and Eclipse Heaven Goddess had gone through. It is because the Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword is one of the two most difficult divine swords to gain mastery over. We are placing all our future hopes on you.”

Ye Yin was once again startled, “Master, what do you mean? Why is everyone placing their hopes on me? I am really afraid...”

Her grand protégé master said, “You must tell no one about this. It is only known to the patriarchs of the Ascension Sect. The divine swords of the Axis and Eclipse Goddess had been completely shattered and they can no longer ascend to the Celestial Realm. We have searched for you for over a thousand years. Unfortunately, we have only found you and still did not find a suitable celestial practitioner for the Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword. These two divine swords are a pair and cannot exist without the other but at the same time, cannot co-exist without destroying each other. Therefore you should be wary when that day comes.”

Ye Yin murmured, “So that means in the future, I may be killed by the owner of the Perpetual Darkness?”

Her grand protégé master nodded, “I do not know yet but these two divine swords are bonded to each other. Today, I am going to instruct upon you the Divine Harmony Skill. That will unite the divine sword and you into one entity. In the future when you are able to ascend, you will be able to transmigrate together with your divine sword to the Celestial Realm! When that time comes, you will be omnipotent and you will give the Ascension Sect a head-start among the many celestial clans!”

Ye Yin gasped softly, “I can ascend together with my divine sword!?”

Her grand protégé master nodded, “The Ascension Sect has a secret celestial art that is passed down by an Ancient Celestial. But your celestial training will be tens of times more arduous than the others. Are you willing to take in the hardship?”

Ye Yin nodded, “I have not repaid grand protégé master for taking me in yet. I am more than willing...”

Her grand protégé master said, “Even if it means abstinence from all worldly emotions, indulgences, desires and affections? Even if it means devoting your entire self to the cause of the Ascension Sect?”

Ye Yin pondered silently for a while before she gave a determined reply as she pledged, “I will! I will dedicate my cause to the Ascension Sect. My

mortal body, my spirit to the Ascension Fire!”

Her grand protégé master was pleased with her reply as he continued, “You must understand that this is for your own good that I am asking you to do so. The Despairing Heaven Divine Sword encompasses several epitome divine skills that only you may be able to interpret one day...”

Ye Yin was stunned, “Master, you are not teaching any celestial skills to me?”

Her grand protégé master replied weakly for he was very old, “Only the basic and the Divine Harmony Skill. If I teach you the more advance celestial skills, it will only distract you from the divining the mysteries of the Despairing Heaven Divine Sword. And it will take you a very, very long time and your heavenly tribulations will be more severe than the rest the longer that you will stay here. Remember, you are picked because of your inherent potential and we have waited thousands of years for your coming.”

She had strong innate energy sense. In time to come, she had realized that why she was the destined one for the Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword. Her divine art was the immaterial and was defensive in nature while her opponent was the material divine art which was offensive in nature.

She had often smiled bitterly to herself, “My divine martial skill is the weakest. Almost everyone can defeat me...”

One day, her grand protégé master said to her, “You seem trouble? You have been practicing for the past five hundred years and yet you have not been progressing as fast as we hope. Why is that so?”

She finally vented, “Why didn’t the elders teach me any of the epitome martial divine arts? Is it fair to me? The Ascension Sect has dozens of such epitome divine arts and hundreds of celestial practitioners. Yet none of these epitome skills are being taught to me...”

Her grand protégé master said solemnly, “You are right. However, how many of these epitome skills are able to aid the celestial practitioner to ascend to the heavens?”

She said tearfully, “Yet, there are many of our predecessors that have already ascended to the heavens. Among these divine skills, is your Divine Rejuvenation Force...”

Her grand protégé master said, “While I do know this divine skill but it is destined for someone else to succeed my mantle. Yin’Er, you don’t need to feel sad. Your destiny isn’t as unfortunate as me.”

She asked puzzled, “Oh?”

Her grand protégé master said, “Despite all my martial learning and practice, I can never ascend to join my grand protégé masters before me. My destiny is to aid you and the others to ascend to the Celestial Realm. That is the destiny of most of the elders in the Ascension Sect. For us, death awaits but for you, a new beginning will start for you.”

She was silent. It was because she knew that her grand protégé master was using a divine skill known as the Divine Ascension Sight to reveal the mysteries of the Celestial Realm. But this skill had a heavy price to pay for and destroys the celestial practice of the user!

She protested weakly after a while, “But I am the weakest now. Surely you can see it...”

Her grand protégé master said firmly, “Who says you are the weakest? Your innate energy sense is already the strongest here. In time to come, you will surely reach the highest level of the energy stratosphere. When that time comes, you will be the nemesis of the sword energies practitioners and you will be able to turn their strengths into their weaknesses! When that time comes, all the other divine arts of the Ascension Sect won’t matter to you. Why didn’t you have faith in yourself and your divine sword?”

Ye Yin saw the disappointment in her benevolent grand protégé master’s eyes and knew that he had restrained from saying his disappointments aloud. This conversation also revealed something that she had never realized before; she saw the sadness in her grand protégé master’s eyes for the first time when he had mentioned that he could never be able to ascend. To the majority of the celestial practitioners, to

be able to ascend was their ultimate goal and not able to do so was as good as death itself.

Therefore from that day onward, she further refined her energy sense and energy reading ability to the point of perfection.

In time to come, her martial strength and level begun to improve rapidly. In less than a thousand years, she had successfully ascended to the Celestial Realm to the astonishment of the elders of the Ascension Sect. It was because most celestial practitioners required a thousand years or more before they could ascend and her celestial ascension was supposedly to be several times more arduous!

In the Celestial Realm, she had quickly established her position as a Supreme Celestial and had quickly risen in the ranks of the Celestial Ascension Sect. In a hundred years' time, she had already defeated many of the top celestials and was quickly ranked as one of the newly seven most powerful celestials!

She had never forgotten about Shen Xingyue who she thought would be her eternal foe. She had met Shen Xingyue who had just been initiated into the Ascension Sect to be the successor of the Perpetual Darkness.

She had disliked Shen Xingyue the Dark Enchantress from the very start for several reasons. First, her grand protégé master had showered her with much care and had taught her several epitome divine skills like the Big Dipper Hands and the Divine Rejuvenation Force. Secondly, it was because a duel between them was inevitable in the future! That was the destiny of their awakened divine swords!

Her stance towards Shen Xingyue was softened only when she realized that she had lost the Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword and her attention was shifted immediately to Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress as she thought, "Is she my destined opponent?"

It was because she had almost lost her life in the duel against Lie Qing when the Ultimate Dragon Vortex phenomenon had suddenly occurred.

Her grand protégé master had reminded her, "In time to come, you will encounter a most difficult heavenly tribulation that may take away your

life. No matter what you do, be wary of the wielder of the Perpetual Darkness. The Perpetual Darkness Divine Sword and your Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword have the same origin but this same origin is also your bane in the future. Both divine swords will attempt to destroy each other.”

She had asked her master for advice to avert this deadly heavenly tribulation of hers but he had simply told her to seek a righteous man, “These two dark divine swords are once used by the most powerful of the Dark Celestials. There is darkness in the recess of these two divine swords. The divine swords by itself aren’t dark in nature but they are destined to clash again. Only through the will of a righteous man can the darkness of these two divine swords be dispelled.”

And that righteous man was Yi Ping! She knew it the instant when she had seen him and her doubts were completely dispelled when he had destroyed the Ultimate Dragon Vortex phenomenon!

That was not the end. She was completely captivated by him and was suddenly interested to know everything about him!

She had secretly decided that he was the man that she wanted to be with!

And today it was going to be her wedding to him but today she was also facing one of the most difficult foes that she had ever met!

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage was considering the use of his most powerful sword technique, the Inverting Eternal Occurrence because he had realized that this Ascension Goddess was nullifying all his energy attacks one way or another!

He was actually reluctant to use this secret divine sword technique in the presence of so many but the Immortal Saint of Swords had willed to him, “It is alright. Use the Inverting Eternal Occurrence. Her Denunciation Force is the nemesis of our sword energies. However, it is not omnipotent.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage willed back, “But Esteem Master, if I use it she will surely die! I am not afraid of killing her but that will cause

us to be at odds with the Holy Ascension Sect!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords willed, “I know that you are unwilling to use it on a junior and in the presence of the others but if we lose this duel then we got more to lose.”

The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage nodded and executed the Inverting Eternal Occurrence sword technique immediately!

When the Ascension Goddess saw the Inverting Eternal Occurrence, she was immediately alarmed as she thought, “Is this the end of me?”

She was immediately met with exploding beams of sword energies shooting from the ground and from the top as she cried aloud with her eyes full of defiance, “Yi Ping!”

Yi Ping had heard her as he rushed forward but he was soon met with multiple explosive shockwaves that rippled in all directions that sent him flying backward!

The Ascension Goddess and the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage both became a small blur and the sword energies halo was so bright and disparaging that all the celestials felt their life forces was being drained away!

All of a sudden, the exploding sword energies were exploding upward in all directions!

Yi Ping raised his martial power and displayed the Asper Continuum Horizon Hands, dissipating and imploding the incoming sword energies as he shouted in anguish, “Don’t die please. I haven’t got to know your real name yet!”

He immediately coughed out blood for he was too near to the center.

All the maidens had all rushed forward at the same time!

Yu’Er and Mei’Er gasped aloud, “Master!”

Lie Qing had already drawn out her divine sword and stepped in front of Yi Ping as she deflected the sword energies bursts one after another, shouting with concern. “Ping’Er, it is far too dangerous! I am sure the

Ascension Goddess will be alright. Wait and see...”

Despite his best efforts, he was once again thrown backward. He was immediately caught by the Universal Old Man and Shen Xingyue.

Shen Xingyue panicky asked, “Ping’Er, are you alright?”

Yi Ping shook his head and he could only grit his teeth and waited for the energies diaspora to be cleared while Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Lingfeng, Yixian, Lele and Youxue were all deflecting the energy bursts one after the other!

An energy burst struck Lele as she coughed out blood but the harmful sword energies was quickly purged out by Yixian who had quickly hit her on her vital channels, “Lele, step back!”

But she herself had coughed out blood; she had not recovered from her internal injuries yet and had used the Divine Emerald Skill forcefully...

Shen Xingyue immediately lifted her Divine Rejuvenation Force as she dissipated the sword energies burst directly in front of Lele and Yixian, “Leave it to me...step back!”

Lingfeng, Youxue, Yunzi and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were forced to take evasive actions for the sword energies bursts were simply too much for them to bear.

Lingfeng thought, “I hope that no one sees this...”

Everyone, it seemed was so caught out in battling this sword energies storm and for their own survival to take notice of anyone else except for their own group who was extremely protective of one another. For that, she was secretly appreciative as she thought. “This is...real friendship?”

As the debris slowly cleared, she looked up to see Yu’Er, Mei’Er and Lie Qing were still battling the unabated martial force; they were breathless and were looking extremely drained.

From the time the Inverting Eternal Occurrence had occurred, only ten blinks of an eye had gone by and it seemed to be a long eternal for everyone!

For Yi Ping, it seemed like eternity!

Yi Ping rushed forward once again, displaying his martial force to clear the dusty remnants aside while muttering nonsensical to himself. "I didn't even get to know your name and today is supposed to be our wedding day..."

As he staggered forward, the Ascension Goddess was lying on the ground motionlessly and she was covered in a blood bath; her entire white golden garment was soaked with her blood!

As for the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage, he was also lying on the ground but he was feeble for the Ascension Goddess had run through him with her Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword. Other than that, he was still breathing.

When Yi Ping witnessed the scene he exploded in anger as he yelled aloud; there was a thunderous martial force that instantly exploded outward and the ground beneath him collapsed one foot underneath!

He rushed forward to cling to the Ascension Goddess and he was weeping uncontrollably aloud!

Yi Ping began to reminisce the times when he was with the Ascension Goddess, however brief it had been. He was muttering, "You didn't say goodbye...I still want to drink with you..."

Xuan Wei and Xuan You were seriously wounded in the aftermath of the Inverting Eternal Occurrence but that did not stop them from rushing forward with Xuan Kong and Xuan Qian as well. Their golden eyes were mixes of red and they were trembling with shock.

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage rushed to his fallen protégé brethren as he shook his head while saying, "This is a fair duel and no one is to be blame. We have won..."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had quickly rushed forward as well but before he could do so, Shen Xingyue had raised her divine sword to attack him!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said angrily, "Maiden, have you forgotten that we have an agreement and that you must surrender the

Blue Heavens Divine Sword to us!”

Shen Xingyue flew towards him in an instant, “I have never heard of such a laudable and thick skin request. I have only seen the two of them lying on the ground and you have the audacity to proclaim your side as the victor? It is really the most laudable thing that I have ever heard!”

With that, she raised her fingers and displayed the Starlight Divine Fingers. Five beaming flashes of light appeared in front of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage but it was quickly parried by his sword fingers!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, “Don’t blame me from being merciless. You have attacked me first. You deserve it. I shall seize the Blue Heavens Divine Sword from you and teach you a hard lesson...”

Shen Xingyue changed her offensive stance to a sword stance, displaying dozens of quick lethal sword strokes as she said coldly. “You have to ask my Starlight Divine Strokes first!”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was startled as he quickly moved back, drawing his precious sword at the same time to parry the attacks! It was because he could feel that her martial power had suddenly increased and that all the strokes had been imbued with sword energies!

There were dozens of brilliant blue lights as Shen Xingyue attacked nonstop in three different directions!

Even Lie Qing was startled at her martial display as she had never seen Shen Xingyue display her Starlight Divine Strokes before, “She is never serious in the past?!”

The attacking speed of her sword strokes was insanely fast!

Even the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage who was renowned for his speed attacks were in awe as he thought, “I have never seen such speed attacks before. Did she really calculate all her attacking steps beforehand? Because this attacking speed is too wanton, it can also be broken very easily by any super exponents...”

But his attention quickly returned to the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage as he panicky tried to save his life.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage parried steadily as he released one sword energies after another at Shen Xingyue, “I will let you have a taste of my Negative Ley Sword Energies...”

Shen Xingyue had raised her other hand at the same time as she exploded the air thunderously in front of her, “Exploding Big Dipper Hand!”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was taken off guard at her startling martial power. He quickly raised his hands to accept her blow.

There was an explosive thunderclap that reverberated aloud many times when they exchanged their blows.

To the astonishment of all the onlookers, the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage coughed out blood and he was flung backward!

The martial power of the Big Dipper Hand exceeded the martial power of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage!

Almost immediately, the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was caught by a celestial with a hegemony air!

This celestial looked ancient with long white hair and beard but he was also youthful looking. Behind his back was a white and black long sword. There was no doubt about it that he was the Immortal Saint of Swords!

He said coldly, “You shouldn’t have done that. If the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage isn’t injured, you don’t have a chance. Maiden, don’t force my hand and surrender the Blue Heavens and the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword quietly.”

Many of the surviving celestials were gasping, “So he is the Immortal Saint of Swords...so that is what he looks like...”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage coughed weakly, “Grand Patriarch, I have disgraced you...alas...”

Shen Xingyue replied coldly, “I don’t care who you are. You have not won and the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword isn’t part of the agreement.”

Lie Qing had also stepped forward and her eyes were extremely red, “I

may be a lowly celestial but if you want to bully one of my sisters then you have to fight me first!”

Shen Xingyue muttered, “Lie Qing...”

Yu’Er had also stepped forward with her sister Mei’Er as she said coldly, “And us too!”

Lingfeng and Youxue were also staring coldly at the Immortal Saint of Swords!

Lingfeng smiled coldly, “You are not the only Ancient Celestial here. Who says you have won?”

She secretly stole a glance at Yi Ping who was inconsolable as he wept aloud while clasping the Ascension Goddess tightly.

The Universal Old Man said coldly, “Don’t forget there is still an old man around here.”

The Immortal Saint of Swords answered coldly, “Are you sure about this? You may not win. Surely you know that my martial skills are above you. And...”

He took a look at Lingfeng before saying, “And the Heavens seem to be weaker now. Recovering from your heavenly tribulations perhaps?”

He was suggesting that everyone else in this grand hall was not his match and that he was the supreme here!

No one, nothing could stop him!

Not even the Celestial Star Annihilation Formation! The power of the Inverting Eternal Occurrence alone could break it!

All of a sudden, the Immortal Sword Aegis Sword coughed out more blood and he was gasping to say something. But before he could say a word, his pupils had turned white and his breath had expired!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was clasping his fists and beating his chest, “Protégé Brother! You have passed on! You have passed on! Your destiny is supposed to be in the Gods’ Realm and not here!”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was equally stunned as he stammered speechlessly, "Protégé Brother has passed away...?!"

Even the Immortal Saint of Swords was startled but that only lasted briefly for his eyes had suddenly turned murderous!

Yi Ping laughed aloud hysterically, "So who is the victor now? All this for a meaningless fight? Can a life be returned from the dead?"

He was trembling and looking at everyone, pointing at the numerous fallen celestials. "Half of the people in this hall are alive earlier but they are now all gone...at what price? At what cost? Is it for honor or for personal gains? Can anyone answer me?"

The Deadly Wanderer had barely survived the aftermath of the Inverting Eternal Occurrence and he was severely injured. He could be one of the dead here today and if another fight were to break out, he really had no confidence of surviving another battle ...

Not only him, the surviving celestials were all quiet...

Chapter 101: The Celestial Alice Divine Sword

The hegemony air of the Immortal Saint of Swords was all too overwhelming. Even powerful celestials like Xuan Kong, Xuan Wei, Xuan Qian, Xuan You, the Northern Tyrant and the Universal Old Man felt uneasy in his presence.

Only Yi Ping, the Heaveness and Lele were not affected by his hegemony air and they were staring defiantly at him!

The Immortal Saint of Swords stared back coldly at Yi Ping, Lele and the Heaveness to unnerve them. His cold stares were like piercing daggers but still they did not budge and their stares were equally chilling!

With his celestial state of divinity, a lesser opponent would have become uneasy or became awkward but not them!

Yi Ping was enveloped in an air of righteousness. Everyone seemed to be looking in his direction for answers or leadership. He was like a beacon of steady light, full of courage and was like a towering tree.

The Immortal Saint of Swords secretly groaned. It was because he had thought that this Yi Ping was an Ancient Celestial in disguise. But after looking at him up close, he dispelled that notion. It was because all the Ancient Celestials had a way to identify one another and he was definitely not one of the original celestials.

As for this lofty maiden in white dress, she was a lowly celestial practitioner like Yi Ping but there was something in her that was different and he could not place a finger yet. Unlike the Heaveness and Yi Ping who seemed to be defying his powerful hegemony air, she seemed to be able to disregard him completely!

The Heaveness he could understand. Her Great Emptiness Translucence was said to embodiment the highest state of mediation. Her imperturbability was renowned throughout the Celestial Realm; her indifference and apathy were known to all the Ancient Celestials. Her

heart was like a solid rock. He could scarcely believe that she was going to marry this Yi Ping today...

The Heaviness smiled coldly, "You haven't changed at all, still as disdainful of others as ever. You seem to have made a remarkable progression."

The Immortal Saint of Swords sighed softly, "It has been a long time..."

The Universal Old Man interrupted coldly, "We have always stayed steered of one another. You know very well that we are here and yet you still come knocking. If you really want to pick a fight with us, we may not lose to you!"

Yi Ping held the Ascension Goddess in his arms and there were hot tears in his downcast expression. He said coldly, "I may be an oaf but I understand what is honor. It is obviously that both have fallen at the same time. Yet you have shamelessly declared your side to be the victor. And when we tried to protest, you decide to intervene. Now that the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage is dead, do you still want to shamelessly declare that you are the victor now?"

Lele added coldly, "That's right! It is obviously that both have fallen at the same time. Now that the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage is dead, can you still say that your side is the victor? Are all the celestial practitioners of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan this shameless? "

All the visiting celestials were startled that Lele would dare to be so disrespectful to the Immortal Saint of Swords. It was because in the Celestial Realm, there was a power pecking order. Only those who were in positions of powers were able to have their own voice. Those who dared to go against this pecking order would only bring forth their own destruction!

But Lele seemed to have completely disregarded the cold piercing stares of the Immortal Saint of Swords as though he was not there.

Unknown to everyone, that was actually Lele innate aptitude. That was the reason why she was able to approach her grandpa seemingly without any sign of fear or awe when they met for the very first time.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage interrupted angrily, “Young maiden, mind your manners! The Infinity Sword Celestial Clan is an orthodox celestial clan. You have killed our protégé brother and leader. Yet you have the cheek to lecture us. A duel is a fight to the finish. Unless one side is dead or admit to losing then the duel will not ended! That is the unbroken rule of the martial fraternity!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords hummed coldly and the entire air began to reverberate with his martial force, “This is the rule of the martial fraternity, who dares to go against this unbroken rule? The Ascension Goddess is the first to die, yes or no?”

All the visiting celestials were silent.

It was because the Immortal Saint of Swords was right. No one could go against this martial rule!

The Immortal Saint of Swords turned to look coldly at Yixian all of a sudden, “I have never expected to see a force deflection skill as refine as yours. You are able to attack and defend simultaneous at the same time. I wonder what will happen if you have drawn out your divine sword? How about this. I will give your group another chance. If you duel with me, I won’t use my swords or my Inverting Eternal Occurrence. In fact, if you are able to exchange thirty strokes with me, I will consider your group to have won. For an opponent like you, it will be a fair duel and thirty strokes will pass by in a blink of an eye.”

He raised his voice and his martial force resonated throughout the grand hall, “However if you are unable to exchange thirty strokes with me, I will take your Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword for safekeeping for ten years!”

Everyone was startled that the Immortal Saint of Swords would offer the Celestial Fairy a second chance and were looking at her.

Yixian was now in a tight spot as she stood quietly as everyone was looking at this epitome beauty as they awaited her reply.

Her delicate features were without any expressions as she pondered quietly and with much unease. It was because if she refused to accept

this challenge then it was as good as admitting defeat. But if she had lost, she would have lost the Heavenly Earth Sword!

She was really tempted for she was thinking, “Thirty strokes will pass very soon. If I can evade his attacks, perhaps...”

Shen Xingyue murmured softly to her, “Xian’Er, please don’t. Don’t ever try. You are not his match. Moreover, you are seriously injured and your martial strength is impaired. I will surrender the Blue Heavens...”

Yunzi added quietly, “This is a trick. He simply wants you to accept his terms and take the Heavenly Earth Celestial Sword.”

The Immortal Saint of Swords interrupted coldly, “For ten years. I will surely keep my word and return the Heavenly Earth Sword to you after ten years. If you do not try, then how do you know you will not win?”

Everyone was smiling bitterly at his humorless cold joke. Even though it seemed that thirty strokes were not a lot but an epitome super celestial opponent like him was capable of utilizing multiple strokes within a stroke.

But to Yixian and those who were in a similar shoe, it was the most tempting offer ever!

Even the Heavens were shaking her head as she said softly, “Yixian, no please. Don’t ever consider it!”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er were already freaked out! They had almost lost their protégé mistress earlier and they were really afraid of losing her. The death of the Ascension Goddess delivered a deep gap in their hearts.

When the Ascension Goddess was killed earlier and when they saw her crumbled body, they were so badly shaken that they were actually shaking uncontrollably.

Yu’Er found herself sobbing uncontrollably until she could cry no more. Even her divine sword was discreetly trembling nonstop as though it was trying to comfort her.

Mei’Er had a blank expression on her face. She was thinking to herself,

“I don’t even know the Ascension Goddess but why am I feeling so grief? It is as though I have known her for a long time...is it because my previous self has known her? I am not the Axis Heaven Goddess...”

They were reminded that they were the First Celestials of the Celestial Fraternity and the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect by Shen Xingyue.

Shen Xingyue had said to them in secret shortly after they had overcome the Divine Calamity after the battle at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains, “If Yu’Er is not the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and Mei’Er is not the Axis Heaven Goddess, why do you think that the two of you are able to overcome the Divine Calamity in such a short period of time? And two golden divine swords are also ordained to you at the onset of your Divine Calamity. All these can’t be coincidences.”

Yu’Er tried to protest but Shen Xingyue said firmly, “The Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess are highly attained celestial practitioners. They cannot ascend because they have shattered their divine swords.”

Mei’Er replied, “Even though we have overcome the Divine Calamity earlier than our protégé mistress and our master, this is not what we want. We are content just to be with our protégé mistress and master forever...”

Shen Xingyue sighed softly and her angelic voice tried to sound them out, “I don’t know if I am able to ascend to the Celestial Realm in the future but the two of you will surely be able to. Unlike the other celestial clans, each of the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect has their own unique skills. The fact that the two of you have overcome your Divine Calamity earlier than the Celestial Fairy and the fact that you have not used any of the martial skills of the Eternal Ice Palace to do so is a strong indication that your inherent celestial abilities are reawakening.”

Mei’Er smiled weakly, “What are the inherent abilities of the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess?! We don’t even know a thing!”

Shen Xingyue said solemnly, “The Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess are one and two body at the same time. During my time, even without any

divine swords in their hands they are already extremely powerful. If you think I am already a super opponent, think again. Their martial strength is equaled to a true Celestial! I have heard that if they can ascend, then they will be in the pinnacles of the Celestial Realm almost immediately. That's how strong they are!"

Yu'Er laughed softly, "Sister! I am flattered but we are not any Heaven Goddess! Moreover, the Eclipse and Axis have their own unique divine skills to be able to go that far. But we don't have and they have thousands of years to refine their divine arts. And that is something that we don't have too. I am not foolish enough to believe that there is a martial shortcut. Everything has to be earned or else it won't take you a thousand years to ponder the next stage of divinity."

Mei'Er nodded, "That's right. That is a freak accident that the Divine Calamity has descended on us all of a sudden. I still have nightmares over the hundreds of exponents that were killed by us on that day. But still, I am curious. What are the divine arts of the two Heaven Goddesses?"

Shen Xingyue raised her fingers to do a rapid divine calculation before she said quietly, "It is not a freak accident. That is your destiny. Do you know that the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess are also twins? The divine art of the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess is the Midheaven Epiphanies, an intricacy heart formula of the Significant Insight through the Divine and the Enlightening Realization. It is not a martial art that anyone can pick up and practice. Not even in a thousand years! It is a natural inherent ability and I can already see that the natural abilities of the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess is already manifesting in you. Do you think that it is a mere coincidence that you are able to pick up the Dual Inertness Intricacy Skill so quickly? It is the latent Midheaven Epiphanies that is in you that is at work here!"

Yu'Er and Mei'Er reacted with silence to her assertions.

Shen Xingyue looked at them for a while before saying quietly, "Unless you are able to reawaken to your true self, you will find the Celestial Realm to be a not so pleasant place. When Yi Ping or your protégé mistress is in great need then, will you want to be able to help him?"

At this moment, Yu'Er and Mei'Er had recalled what Shen Xingyue had told them and they were feeling totally powerless...

They were not the only ones who were feeling powerless.

Lele, Youxue, Yunzi, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng and Lie Qing too, were feeling powerless for Yixian. It was because the gambit was for her Heavenly Earth Sword and it was not their decision to make!

Everyone was waiting for Yixian to reply to the Immortal Saint of Swords while she was still pondering regally...

Yi Ping was pleading, "Xian'Er, quickly reject the duel!"

Shen Xingyue emphasized again, "I don't mind losing my divine sword, really!"

Lele brushed her long pony hair aside as she stepped forward as she said coldly, "I'm completely and utterly outrage! I am the Joyful Goddess, the Prime Celestial of the Celestial Palace."

Yi Ping interrupted hurriedly, "Lele! You are not his match. I should be the one that is challenging him!"

But Lele raised her long scythe and pointed coldly at the Immortal Saint of Swords, "I don't think he is as powerful as he looks. Do you dare to accept my..."

Lie Qing too, interrupted panicky, "Sister, wait!"

Lele was about to say something more when Lingfeng, Shen Xingyue and Yixian gave a startled cry!

Even the Immortal Saint of Swords, the Universal Old Man and the other two Immortal Sword Sages had suddenly turned ashen!

What could have caused them all the super celestial exponents to undergo such a sudden change!?

It was because their paranormal hearings and senses had picked up a faint heartbeat!

Yixian, Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng had immediately flew to the startled Yi Ping and said to him with a trembling voice, "Ping'Er, the Ascension Goddess..."

Almost immediately, the Ascension Goddess coughed out more blood as she gasped weakly, "Ping'Er, is that you...I can't see anymore...I thought that I would die before I could say my last words to you. You are holding me...now?"

Yi Ping and everyone were stunned!

Yixian, Shen Xingyue and the Heaveness immediately examined her pulses!

It was because the Ascension Goddess had no more vital pulses anymore. It was already a miracle that she was able to talk!

Xuan Wei and Xuan You wanted to rush to the Ascension Goddess immediately but Xuan Kong halted them as he said quietly, "Alas brothers...leave them alone..."

Everyone could see that Xuan Kong was trembling.

Xuan Qian muttered, "Protégé brother..."

He had never seen his protégé brother in such a sorrowful state before...

Yi Ping sobbed uncontrollably and his entire body was trembling, "Don't say anymore! You will surely live...I haven't got to know your name yet..."

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, "I know my own limits...I can hear your voice just now...Ping'Er, my name is Ye Yin...that's my name..."

Yi Ping wept aloud, "Ye Yin! Ye Yin..."

The Heaveness was suddenly trembling and she was clasping her mouth, trying extremely hard to withhold her tears.

The Immortal Saint of Swords was secretly startled as he thought, "The Heaveness actually has emotional attachments?"

The Heaveness was not the only one who was weeping; all the other maidens including Shen Xingyue were all trying to hold back their tears...

Shen Xingyue was shivering as she muttered softly, "Protégé Sister Yin..."

It was because they had all recognized that this was the sign of an impending death, a phenomenon when death was imminent, a person would suddenly be awake.

Lingfeng was startled that the Ascension Goddess was not killed instantly. Even though she was still grievous injured and was at death's door but granted the startling power of the Inverting Eternal Occurrence, anyone will surely be torn apart!

She immediately gasped to herself, "The Celestium Silk! She is wearing the Celestium Silk underneath her. No wonder!"

The Ascension Goddess was about to say something when Yixian the Celestial Fairy seized her from Yi Ping's arms, startling Yi Ping!

Yi Ping gasped tearfully, "Xian'Er, what are you doing. Return her to me..."

But Yixian ignored him as she struck the Ascension Goddess in her heart pulse and immediately, the Ascension Goddess was knocked out cold!

Yi Ping had turned completely ashen!

His expressions became stone as he called out hurriedly, "Xian'Er..."

But Xian'Er said gently, "Ping'Er, if I don't do anything now she will surely die."

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were startled!

Yi Ping asked panicky, "The Ascension Goddess has a hope?"

Yixian said solemnly, "I am using the Eternal Heavenly Tears Energy on her now to protect her heart. Yichi once told me that the Eternal Heavenly Tears is able to stall the inevitable. I don't know if it works but it is worth a try."

All of a sudden, Yi Ping froze in his tracks. It was because he had suddenly recalled that his mother had once saved his life with the Eternal

Heavenly Tears when he was little!

Yixian stole a glance at Shen Xingyue and the Heaveness before she said gravely, “My internal strength alone is insufficient. I need the Divine Rejuvenation Force and the Divine Invigorate Force at the same time too.”

Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng said together without hesitation even though they were reluctant to leave the rest here, “Let’s take her to the inner chamber first.”

Lingfeng took a glance at Yi Ping, “Ping’Er, stay calm please.”

Yi Ping smiled awkwardly, “I will...”

She flashed a look at the Universal Old Man, “Old friend, be careful...”

The Universal Old Man knew that she was worried for them all so he forced a smile, “Not to worry. I still have several tricks up my sleeves.”

Shen Xingyue took a forlorn look at Yi Ping as she said melancholy, “Ping’Er, it takes us a thousand years to be together. I want to fight alongside with you but if the Ascension Goddess were to die, I know that you will never forgive yourself.”

She looked hatefully at the Immortal Saint of Swords before saying angelic, “The Ascension Goddess has the last breath. So that means we have won the duel. Don’t forget what you have just said earlier!”

Immediately there were many mutterings among the visiting celestials!

Xuan Kong mustered his courage to say coldly, “The Immortal Sword Aegis Sage has died before the Ascension Goddess so there is no doubt that the young hero Yi Ping’s group has won.”

Even the Deadly Wanderer stammered out nervously, “That’s right!”

Yixian quickly interrupted, “Protégé Mistress, Qing’Er, Lele, Youxue, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Yunzi, I am leaving Ping’Er in your hands...”

Without waiting for anyone of them to reply, Yixian was gone in an instant! She was immediately followed by Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng at the same time!

All of a sudden, Yi Ping called out. “Xian’Er, wait!”

Even the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was shouting, “Where do you think you are going?!”

But Yixian, Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng had already taken the Ascension Goddess to the inner chamber. Given their epitome swiftness movement skills, few could stop them from coming and leaving freely.

Yi Ping was exasperated!

It was because he had suddenly recalled that his mother had lost her life by attempting the Eternal Heavenly Tears to save his life but it was already too late to stop them!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage asked the Immortal Saint of Swords, “Grand Patriarch, you are not stopping them?”

The Immortal Saint of Swords simply said, “Let’s us go.”

He had immediately turned around, much to the relief of the visiting celestials!

If another fight broke out, then more of them would surely perish! Most of them were now too severely injured to take any evasive action!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage clenched their fists in anguish. How could they not be upset? They had known of the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage for a long time and moreover he was the protégé leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said coldly, “The Infinity Sword Celestial Clan won’t forget this slight...”

Lele immediately scoffed after him, “We see about that first.”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly before he turned around.

All of a sudden Yi Ping shouted coldly, “Wait! Immortal Saint of Swords, do you dare to accept my challenge?”

The Universal Old Man was stunned at his request that he panicky said,

“That is only a joke! Don’t mind an ignorant fellow like him...”

But the Immortal Saint of Swords had already turned around, “No one jokes to me in my presence. Young fellow, I will make an exception for you and accept your challenge but I won’t stop until you are dead!”

Lie Qing, Youxue, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Yunzi, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Lele almost fainted on the spot as they looked panicky at Yi Ping!

Yi Ping looked coldly at the Immortal Saint of Swords and he was trembling. It was not fear that caused him to tremble but a deep throttling distress! He was anxious for the Ascension Goddess. He wanted her to pull through. He wanted her to live. But there was something that he got to do first...

The maidens were panicky! Knowing Yi Ping, they had already known his intentions!

Lie Qing came to his side and tugged him, “Ping’Er, no please! If you die, do you still I will be able to live alone?”

Yunzi nodded disquietly, “Ping’Er...”

Youxue said melancholy, “That’s right...”

Lele pleaded at the same time, “Ping’Er, at least allow me to fight along with you. I am sure that given the martial skills of the Immortal Saint of Swords, he doesn’t mind us fighting him at the same time!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said firmly to Yi Ping, “My life is saved by you. If you die, I will surely follow you. Just do what you think is right.”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er were trembling nonstop.

All of a sudden, Yu’Er had already drawn out her divine sword the Harp Whisperer and she was immediately surrounded by multiple golden halos!

She said despondently, “Master, at least allow me to join you too!”

Her voice was soft but it could be heard clearly by everyone. In fact, it seemed to be reverberating in everyone’s ears!

Mei'Er did the same and had displayed her Lyrical Whisperer and a golden light was also enveloping her!

She seemed to be muttering, "I remember now..."

Even Yi Ping was a little startled by Yu'Er and Mei'Er. The golden lights of their divine swords were stunning. It seemed that Yu'Er and Mei'Er had been transformed!

The Universal Old Man immediately said and there were surprise in his eyes, "The Divine Harmony! They had divine harmonized with their divine swords!"

All the visiting celestials could felt a powerful martial force that was in motion and it seemed to be pulling them gently towards the identical sisters.

Yunzi was the first to notice as she stammered, "Yu'Er, Mei'Er...their crimson eyes have turned golden!"

Everyone was stunned. These two lowly celestial practitioners had suddenly turned into Golden Celestials and judging by their reverent divine auras, they were in the echelons of the Golden Celestials!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage were also exchanging stunned looks with each other. Given their celestial attainment, they could easily have gauged their lesser opponents' state of divinity. These two maidens had suddenly skipped five states of divinity, transforming them instantly!

The most bewildered thing was that there seemed to be no divine calamities!

Even the Immortal Saint of the Swords was taken aback as evidenced by his startled expressions. He was actually thinking, "Only Ancient Ancients like us can conceal our own state of divinity and there are so few of us left now but these two maidens are not Ancient Celestials. They can overcome their own state of divinity without going through the cleansing fire of the Divine Wrath? How is it possible?"

The Immortal Saint of the Swords turned ashen immediately as he said

coldly to Yu'Er and Mei'Er, "Just who are you?"

The Universal Old Man quickly did some rapid calculations but he was quickly distracted by two freaks of brilliant light that imploded thunderously across the entire grand hall!

It was Yi Ping!

He was oblivious to the celestial transformation of Yu'Er and Mei'Er. All his attentions were on the Immortal Saint of Swords. He was troubled by the motionless stance of the Immortal Saint of Swords which was like an impervious giant with no weakness...

All of a sudden when he had seen a slight change of state in his opponent stance, he had seized the opportunity to attack! It was because Yi Ping knew that this little initiative was extremely precious!

Indeed, the Immortal Saint of the Swords was momentarily distracted by Yu'Er and Mei'Er. When Yi Ping had suddenly attacked him, he quickly regained his composure. An epitome super opponent like him was difficult to be caught off-guarded.

But Yi Ping's sudden attacks combined with his Horizon Swordplay and the two divine swords, Divine Echo and the White Phoenix were so hasty and powerful that the Immortal Saint of the Swords was forced to drawn out his white precious sword to counter Yi Ping!

That was what caused the two freaks of imploding brilliant lights that had resonated thunderous throughout the grand hall!

The Immortal Saint of Swords shouted mightily, "Good! You are a worthy opponent! You have actually forced me to draw my sword for the first time in centuries!"

Even as he had said that, he had already displayed the Infinity-Zero Swordplay and his Ley Negative Sword Energy Aura, sending forth bursts of martial energies swirling in all directions and sending everyone to scurry backward in a hurry; that included the two Immortal Sword Sages!

Yi Ping was not an energy practitioner. Therefore he could only suppressed his agonizing pain when the aftershock of the Immortal Saint

of Swords piercing cold sword energies struck him as he used his martial force to dissipate as much of the sword energies onslaught as possible while maintaining his attacks!

Yi Ping had displayed his divine swords with a roaring fury as he swung the Divine Echo and White Phoenix in the same direction, arcing from left first and right!

The golden eyes of the Immortal Saint of Swords were burning furiously and there were a faint blue and red tears diaspora at the side of his eyes as he displayed the intricate stroke of the Negative One Infinity Sword Art towards Yi Ping!

Many of the celestials began to gasp aloud and exchanged mutterings even before the sword stroke of the Immortal Saint of Swords had landed on Yi Ping! It was because while they had heard that the most powerful Ancient Celestials were able to reach the divine state of the Blue and Red Eyes Level, even long time celestials of the Celestial Realm had never seen it before!

The Northern Tyrant and Xuan Kong upon seeing the red and blue hint at the corners of the Immortal Saint of Swords' eyes were astonished, "So that is what it meant by the Blue and Red Eyes Level!"

Ancient Celestials were undistinguished from the other Golden Celestials. Only their superior state of divinity marked them differently from the rest but only a superior Golden Celestial who had similar state of divinity was able to tell them apart!

There was a titanic burst of martial energy and force shattering in all directions as Yi Ping caught his Negative One Infinity Sword Technique by crossing his divine swords one over the other!

Immediately, Yi Ping coughed out blood and he was bended over, inundated by the titan martial energies of the conflicting martial forces but at the same time the Immortal Saint of Swords was also repulsed from Yi Ping!

The Immortal Saint of Swords was startled, "You can actually take a blow from my Negative One Infinity Sword Technique?!"

He looked up to see that Yi Ping was enveloped by two bright halos! One from the Divine Echo and one from the White Phoenix!

He hummed coldly, “The Boundless Martial Force! The Divine Harmonies! You can actually harmonize with the two divine swords at the same time!”

In less than a blink of an eye, Yi Ping had mustered his martial strength again as he attacked with his sword arcs, displaying his Horizon Swordplay together with the sword techniques taught by Dugu Yunzi and Lele, sending furious strokes one after another at the Immortal Saint of Swords!

But even Lele and Yunzi were stunned at his ambidextrous display which seemed to defy conventions!

Yi Ping was shouting weakly, “This is...for Yunzi. This is for Yixian...and this is for Ye Yin!”

It was because the Immortal Saint of Swords was simply too strong and every stroke that was parried or blocked by the Immortal Saint of Swords was causing Yi Ping to cough out blood and was sapping his martial strength!

The Immortal Saint of Swords was startled that Yi Ping had continued to persist. He began to execute the Ley Negative Sword Energies, the Negative Two and Three Infinity Sword one after another!

In a few blinks of an eye, more than a hundred strokes had been exchanged and the destructive furies of the martial exchanges were ripping everything that was near them apart!

All the celestial practitioners had already steered clear of the two duelists where the martial exchange had started!

The Universal Old Man was shaking his head and he had displayed his martial force with an explosive force to shield the maidens from the onslaught of the furious martial forces as the ground beneath him cracked wider and wider, “Get back quickly!”

Even Yu’Er, Mei’Er and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were stunned at the

onslaught of the martial forces as all their martial forces were nullified, forcing them to take several steps backward!

Yu'Er gasped as she raised her sword fingers in front of her with her divine sword, "The sword energies of the Immortal Saint of Swords are tens of times more powerful than the Immortal Aegis Sword Sage..."

Mei'Er was parrying off volley after volley of the incoming sword energies with her Lyrical Whisperer as she smiled weakly, "At this rate, we cannot get to the center!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled weakly, "Trust me, there is no way you can get to the center without getting killed. The Ley Negative Sword Energies Aura of the Immortal Saint of Swords is too overpowering. Our martial differences are simply too great. We can only pray..."

Youxue had displayed the Divine Emerald Force with her entire martial power but she too could not persist longer than a few seconds before she too, was forced backward!

Lie Qing took the hands of Yunzi and Lele as she displayed her Invincible Divine Force while whispering gently to them. "Sisters, behind me!"

She had raised her Perpetual Darkness and a dark halo could be seen. Together with her nine hovering bluish spheres around her, her dark halo had a spatial ring of bright light that instantly dissipate all the incoming sword energies!

That was immediately noticed by the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage amidst the destructions and the confusions; they were secretly startled at her martial level!

But even though Lie Qing was able to nullify the martial energies that were ripping everything apart in all directions, she was not at the center of the martial exchange which was ten times more dangerous! Even then, she was secretly trembling, not knowing if she could be able to hold on much longer.

It was because in a few blinks of an eye, the Immortal Saint of the

Swords had already attacked Yi Ping with the Ley Negative Second Sword and there were now twenty bluish sword energies hovering and flying all over at an alarming speed. Even the white celestium walls were ripped and exploded into smithereens by the speeding sword energies!

That was something that Lie Qing was not confident in as she asked herself, “Can my Invincible Divine Force protect me from these sword energies?”

Even Youxue was sighing melancholy, “Can my swiftness skill evade and my Golden Impervious Body protects me from these sword energies?”

Like Lie Qing, she wanted to barge into the middle to lend Yi Ping a helping hand!

Yunzi was disquiet and she was clenching her mouth. She was actually crying as she sobbed, “I am just too weak. Ping’Er, do you know I am willing to take your place? Heavens...”

Even Yu’Er, Mei’Er and Lele were holding back tears as they tried to battle their way to the middle but each time the destructive energies forced them backward once again!

The Universal Old Man was shouting exasperating to the maidens as he stumbled backward, “I say step back! You will surely die if you intervene in the fight!”

The Universal Old Man had guessed what were in their minds already!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage used his Thousand Mile Resonant Skill as he echoed with his martial shout, “If anyone dares to intervene in this duel, don’t blame the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and I for stepping in too to avenge our protégé brother the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage!”

In the meantime...

In a blink of an eye, Yi Ping and the Immortal Saint of Swords had already exchanged dozens of strokes as evidenced by the speeding globes of light that were blurring in the middle of the grand hall!

Yi Ping had coughed out more blood as he willed with his Absolute

Spirits intrinsic heart formula to continue fighting as he attacked the Immortal Saint of Swords faster and faster while repeating, "This is for... Yunzi, this is for Yixian and this is...for Ye Yin!"

The faster he swung his divine swords, the faster his vital energies reversed onto himself and that only worsened his internal injuries. But Yi Ping did not care anymore as he launched one frenzy stroke after the other!

Even the Immortal Saint of Swords was startled by Yi Ping's resolute. He had expected that Yi Ping's attacks would be weakened by now but instead, Yi Ping had continued to empower his sword strength and speed!

Their reflexes and attacking speed was so fast and were getting faster all the time that the onlookers could not follow their sword strokes anymore!

The Immortal Saint of Swords was shouting while executing one intricate stroke and technique one after another, "Ley Negative Fifth Stroke, the Inception Hit! Ley Negative First Stroke! Sixth Infinity Swordplay, Bursting Forces! Negative One Infinity Swordplay, Piercing Sword Energies! Second Infinity Stroke, Returning Strokes!"

Yi Ping was not slowed to make his returning attacking strokes as he synchronized his two divine swords as one to display his sword techniques but asynchronous his attacking strokes when required!

The Immortal Saint of Swords had not gotten even a single scratch or injury yet while Yi Ping was almost at his breaking point but he was still startled that his opponent was able to block his epitome strokes with such martial strength.

He secretly exclaimed, "This is the divine strength of his two divine swords?!"

In between his thoughts, he had knocked back Yi Ping again but Yi Ping had quickly steadied his footings as he lurched himself at the Immortal Saint of Swords in a blink of an eye while shouting, "This is for Yunzi!"

But he was quickly knocked back again as a cold sword energies pierced

right through his chest!

But Yi Ping did not fall as he sped towards the Immortal Saint of Swords, striking at the Immortal Saint of Swords with half a dozen of strokes while muttering weakly, "This is for Yixian!"

Immediately, dozens of deafening powerful martial energies shockwaves rippled throughout the grand hall as several thunderous implosions took place!

In just a few blinks of an eye, they had exchanged dozens of rapid strokes!

Many of the onlookers, including the Immortal Sword Sages, Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei, Xuan You, the Northern Tyrant and the Deadly Wanderer were stunned at Yi Ping's persistent as they thought, "Why didn't he fall down yet? He has already taken so many fatal direct hits... and what this ambidextrous sword technique style that he is using? I have never seen anything like that before..."

They had already observed that while Yi Ping had an opportunity to attack, he could attack the Immortal Saint of Swords with the Divine Echo followed by the White Phoenix. But that was not the intricate part! After the White Phoenix had attacked, it was immediately followed by the Divine Echo! To the naked eyes and to the majority of the onlookers, it seemed that Yi Ping was attacking with a flurry of sword strokes!

As the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix were being enveloped by a bright halo; it seemed to everyone that while Yi Ping was attacking furiously, there was a great multitude of dazzling globe of lights which were extremely blinding to the eyes of the onlookers!

Yi Ping coughed out more blood as he continued to murmur to himself, "This is for...Ye Yin!"

As the Immortal Saint of Swords raised his long sword coolly in a furious defense to his right, Yi Ping had incorporated the power of his most powerful technique, the Asper Divinity Horizon Hands into his attacking strokes as the entire air imploded thunderous with the martial power of this technique as six rings of martial force burst around him!

There was a thunderous thunderclap and immediately the precious sword of the Immortal Saint of Swords was shattered into a thousand fragments, flying in all directions!

Both the Immortal Saint of Swords and Yi Ping was both caught in this thunderous mishap, flying backward and sustaining severe injuries at the same time!

All the maidens shouted panicky for his name at the same time as Yi Ping crumbled onto the ground! He was very pale, his mouth was full of blood and there were multiple sword wounds and injuries all over his body!

Lele and the Stellar Heaven Fairy covered their mouth in shock while Lie Qing was so stunned that she had nearly fainted in Lele's embrace!

Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Yunzi and Youxue cried his name aloud!

The Immortal Saint of Swords had taken several steps backward as he parried most of the shattered fragments. But there were some visible wounds on him.

He clenched his chest and he was looking at his hand that was full of blood. He was extremely pale. That was because it was taboo for energy practitioners to be injured while they were channeling the sword energies. The backlash to himself was not light!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage reacted with stunned shock too!

The Immortal Saint of Swords was trembling as he stared at his broken precious sword in his hands. He was muttering, "My Egress, my precious sword...you have been with me for the past thousand years...imagine my joy when I have first forged you but now you are broken..."

The visiting celestials understood his pain. That was because precious metal was extremely rare in the Celestial Realm and even harder to forge into precious swords...

The Immortal Saint of Swords stared angrily at the fallen Yi Ping as he took a step forward, "I will cut you to pieces!"

His Ley Negative Sword Energies Aura had suddenly turned malevolent and his murderous intent was evidenced. Almost immediately, the martial windforce that was generating unabated around the grand hall grew in intensive and the sword energies in the area were speeding like lightning bolts pacing up and down, exploding the ground and everywhere that it contacted!

To the astonishment of everyone, a trembling Yi Ping had picked himself up as he supported himself with the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix. What was even more astonishing was that the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix were reverberating on its own accord, forming a large divine rainbow halo in front of Yi Ping!

Yi Ping's face was not visible but he could be heard muttering, "...This is for Yixian...and for Ye Yin..."

The Immortal Saint of Swords hummed coldly, "So you are still able to stand. Good! I don't want to kill a fallen man lest I am ridiculed by the others for bullying a junior. But I will give you a rare honor..."

All of a sudden, he had reached for the black sword on his back and had drawn it in front of him. "This sword is also a divine sword, the Celestial Alice. You have depended on the two divine swords to carry you this far. This is really a surprise to me but the differences in our martial levels are simply too vast. You have been lucky. I don't want anyone to know that I have a divine sword but today, I am going to execute you with the Celestial Alice..."

The Universal Old Man was startled! He had not expected that the Immortal Saint of Swords would have a divine sword in his possession. Moreover he had recognized this divine sword that was in his hand as a divine sword that had come from the Stellar Sanctuary!

Unlike the other divine swords, there was no evidence that the Celestial Alice was a divine sword saved for its extreme sharpness!

Long ago, the Ancient Celestials had fought over this divine sword and many had perished. He had never expected that the Celestial Alice was actually in the hands of the Immortal Saint of Swords!

As the Immortal Saint of Swords raised his divine sword towards Yi Ping, all the maidens had made use of the lull of the dissipating sword energies to gather all around Yi Ping, showering him with concerns...

Lele was appalled at the sight of the bloodied Yi Ping and her silent tears fell uncontrollable as she gasped, "Ping'Er..."

Yu'Er cried, "Master Yi Ping, are...you alright?"

Yi Ping face was covered with his blood but he was muttering weakly, "Yu'Er, Lele...leave quickly. The duel isn't over..."

Lie Qing interrupted melancholy, "Good! Then we shall fight this demon together..."

Mei'Er, Youxue and Yunzi nodded at the same time as they said resolutely, "That's right!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy added gently, "Don't forget me as well!"

Even the Universal Old Man had stepped in front of Yi Ping as he shouted angrily at the Immortal Saint of Swords, "That is enough isn't it? My protégé Yi Ping has already lost. Can you give me a little face and quit the duel? You don't think that I cannot break your Ley Negative Sword Energies Field? I am just simply conserving my strength!"

The Immortal Saint of Swords said coldly, "You know my rules. Anyone that interrupts my duel is fair game to me. No one can break my rules or bend my rules!"

He laughed coldly at Yu'Er, Mei'Er and Lie Qing, "It seems that I will have three more divine swords to my collection..."

All of a sudden, the Immortal Saint of Swords swung the Celestial Alice at the Universal Old Man as he thundered. "Get lost!"

The Universal Old Man retaliated with his Ultrapowerful Force as the air broke into a series of several thunderclaps but still, he was flung off aside by the martial energies of the Immortal Saint of Swords!

At the same time, the Immortal Saint of Swords had already raised the Celestial Alice to display the Ley Negative Third Stroke to cut down the

Universal Old Man!

But a bloodied Yi Ping had dashed forth and intercepted the Ley Negative Third Stroke with his double divine swords, resulting in a thunderous brilliant light that imploded with such a powerful energies shockwave that Yi Ping immediately coughed out more blood on the spot!

Because all the maidens were too near to the martial implosions, they were all knocked back with varying degrees of internal injuries despite their best efforts to deflect the energies shockwaves!

The Immortal Saint of Swords hummed coldly, "It is useless to resist..."

Yi Ping was muttering, "This is for...Yunzi, Yixian, Ye Yin!"

All of a sudden, the Immortal Saint of Swords was stumbling backward in disbelief as he dropped the Celestial Alice!

It was because there was a cross that was slashed across his chest and his blood was dripping on the ground nonstop!

Yi Ping had actually successfully slashed at the Immortal Saint of Swords!

He was looking at the Celestial Alice that was thrust into the ground in utter disbelief!

He was muttering in shock and disbelief, "Impossible...Why did you betray me..."

He was not the only one that was stunned too!

All the others were stunned by this sudden change of event! It was because given the sword skills of the Immortal Saint of Swords, it was extremely easy for him to block Yi Ping's attacks.

But they had seen Yi Ping slashed at the Immortal Saint of Swords who seemed to react with a retarded reflex at the very last moment!

No one seemed to know what was happening as they shared the disbeliefs in their eyes!

As for Yi Ping, he was not able to savor this moment of victory; he had

fallen on his knees and was gripping the two divine swords for support but he had completely lost his consciousness!

He was not even aware that right now he was now being surrounded by Yunzi, Youxue, Lele, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Lie Qing as they sought to resuscitate him...

Even the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix seemed to turn dull and had lost their luster!

The Immortal Saint of Swords turned around as he staggered forward while muttering incoherently to himself, "Let's go...I have lost..."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and Immortal Sword Blitz Sage were stunned as they looked at the fallen Yi Ping and the Celestial Alice that was still being left behind!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage panicky called out, "Grand Patriarch, you have not lost. That Yi Ping has fallen! And the Celestial Alice is still here!"

But the Immortal Saint of Swords did not seem to hear him as he staggered to the entrance...

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was stunned at his grand patriarch's reaction. He took a look at the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage who was also looking at him with a stunned look while carrying the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage on his back.

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage finally said as he reached out for the divine sword, "The Celestial Alice is a divine sword of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan..."

But to his utter surprise, the Celestial Alice refused to budge from the original spot!

He proceeded to use his entire martial power to lift the Celestial Alice. All of a sudden, he began to cough out blood and went wobbly backward!

The Celestial Alice did not even budge at all and his vital energies had even reversed when he tried to his entire martial strength to lift it!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was stunned and was in disbelief!

It was as though the Celestial Alice had a will of its own!

When the Immortal Saint of Swords reached the entrance, he coughed weakly. “Leave it. The Celestial Alice has found its true master...we have utterly lost...”

Chapter 102: Celestial Antonym Alice, Celestial Synonym Alice

The Immortal Saint of Swords and the Immortal Sword Sages had left.

The once beautiful white celestium hall of the Tranquil City was in an appalling mess, with cracks and splinters everywhere.

Only a handful of the most powerful celestial clans could afford such splendor.

The Tranquil City was once the headquarter of the Dominating Aura Clan, an aggressive celestial clan that had quickly expanded in their dominations.

The entire hall was extremely dusty and many of the visiting celestials were coughing weakly.

There were more than a hundred visiting celestials at the start. Some had come to disrupt the wedding and some had come here to be acquainted with the new Domain Lord of the Tranquil City. But now there were only fifty of them now!

More than fifty celestials were scattered around the hall, unable to move ever again.

The surviving celestials were worn up and many of them were had sustained serious internal injuries. A few of them were even wailing aloud for the dead.

But most of the celestials were looking at the Celestial Alice and Yi Ping's group in the middle of the hall...

Yi Ping had fallen and his breathing was extremely weak.

Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Youxue, Yunzi, the Shishi the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lele and Lie Qing were surrounding him and were trying to resuscitate him while the Universal Old Man was popping several pills in his mouth...

The Universal Old Man struck Yi Ping's chest with a heavy pounding blow after another, causing the unconscious Yi Ping to quiver and

foaming blood each time!

Lele said exasperating, "Dirty old man, what are you doing? You are killing him! I have never seen anyone hitting a person to save a person!"

Youxue was also saying exasperating and she was close to tears, "Stop please. You are killing him..."

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly, "Why should I kill my own protégé? I am saving him..."

Yunzi was also staring at the Universal Old Man in disbelief, "I...I think I go get the Heavenness..."

The Universal Old Man wiped away his beads of perspiration as he stammered, "Trust me, trust me. Even if you get the Heavenness to be here, it is futile. Moreover, she cannot be distracted now. My pills may not be miracle pills but it is better than nothing..."

It was true that it was futile to get the Heavenness here. Or even Shen Xingyue or Yixian. It was because right now, they were expending their internal strength to save the Ascension Goddess. Internal strength energies were extremely precious to the martial practitioners and would take them a long time to recover. Moreover, recklessly expending their internal energies carried a mortal risk too. That was why martial practitioners were reluctant to expend their precious internal energies for anyone.

But Yixian did not hesitate at all when she had used the Eternal Heavenly Tear internal energies in an attempt to save the Ascension Goddess. Either did Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng!

At this moment, the Universal Old Man and the other maidens were also expending their internal energies to aid Yi Ping without any hesitation even though they were still being surrounded by hostilities!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy whispered to Yu'Er and Mei'Er, "You are Golden Celestials now. Are you really the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess? Is there anything you can do?" She was tearful. She had not expected that her wedding would be ruined because the bridegroom had

been met with a mishap. She lamented silently, “There is nothing but tragedies that awaits me in the Celestial Realm...”

Mei’Er looked at Yu’Er melancholy as she channeled pulses of golden light into Yi Ping, “Sister, have you remember?”

Yu’Er nodded gently as she struck Yi Ping in his life channels with her fingers, “Yes I have remembered but Master Yi Ping is too grievously injured. We can only try with our Midheaven Epiphanies intricate energies...”

Mei’Er said gently to the other maidens, “Sisters. Don’t expend your internal energies futility. Leave it to the Universal Old Man, Yu’Er and I. If the three of us are unable to save Master Yi Ping’s life, then no one else is able to...”

Lie Qing, Lele, Yunzi, Youxue and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were startled by their transformation. They reluctantly complied. Mei’Er voice may be gentle but it had a mystifying commanding pull in it.

Yu’Er said softly, “There are six different intrinsic sword energies in his body. The best we can do now is to suppress the six conflicting sword energies first and then think of a way to save his life...”

All of a sudden, her voice became extremely tender as she was heard murmuring. “Yi Ping...the White Sage...I have thought that I won’t be able to see you again...but when I did, why is that it have to be in this situation...”

Most of the visiting celestials were only paying scant attentions to them except for Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You. Instead, their eyes were on the black relic that was impaled in the middle of the grand, the Celestial Alice!

A divine sword was impaled in the middle of the grand hall and no one was claiming it!

Xuan Kong, Xuan Wei, Xuan Qian, Xuan You, the Northern Tyrant, the Deadly Wanderer and many others were now staring at the Celestial Alice nervously!

But no one wanted to be first to go to the middle of the grand hall to pick up the Celestial Alice while the Universal Old Man was there. It was because the only celestial that had survived the ordeal unscathed was the Universal Old Man. He was not only an Ancient Celestial but he was one of the seven super celestials in the past ranking together with the Immortal Saint of Swords!

Having witnessing the epic duels of the Immortal Sword Sages and the Immortal Saint of Swords, the surviving celestials were dumbfounded by their sword practice as well as their energy practice. They had never expected that their martial differences would be this vast!

Even Yi Ping and the Ascension Goddess were leagues above them!

They could not understand how a celestial practitioner like Yi Ping who had not successfully attained as a Golden Celestial would be able to exchange so many strokes with the Immortal Saint of Swords!

The secret verdict among the visiting celestials was, “They are too exaggerating!”

The conclusion of that secret verdict was, “Is it because of the divine swords that are in their hands?”

Divine swords were divine swords because unlike ordinary swords, it was able to absorb and dissipate the powerful sword energies shockwaves that were being generated by internal energy practitioners.

And of course, martial energies and forces were easier to channel and amplified through the use of a divine sword.

In the Martial Fraternity and in the Celestial Realm, internal energy practitioners were commonplace but sword energies practitioners were extremely rare. It was a martial path that was fraught with dangers and difficulties, with just one or two in every few generations that could attain the immaterial energy level and even harder to ascend to the Celestial Realm. While energy practitioners were all martial exponents that everyone wanted to avoid, they were not invincible. Any injuries or disruption to their vital energies channels could be fatal to them.

Therefore, the reason why they were all staring at the Celestial Alice was not because they dared to dream of challenging the Immortal Saint of Swords or the Immortal Sword Sages.

It was because the divine swords not only offered them an advantage over their closest opponent but it was because divine swords were known to aid the celestial practitioners in overcoming the dreadful Heavenly Tribulations!

Therefore many of the visiting celestials were now staring at the Celestial Alice and were pondering over their next move.

The Immortal Saint of Swords had said that this sword here was a divine sword and it was christened the Celestial Alice. But was the Celestial Alice really a divine sword? But where was its divine air? All the celestials were not able to feel it...

But even though they were not able to feel it, they knew that the Celestial Alice was not an ordinary divine sword. It was because when the Immortal Saint of Swords had casually dropped it, it had impaled deep into the white celestial marble slabs which were nearly impervious to most forces and cuts!

Could it be that the Celestial Alice was a True Divine Sword, an immortal sword from the Gods' Realm? Given their current state of divinity, maybe that was why they were not able to recognize it?

Most of the visiting celestials were not able to recognize a divine weapon unless it had been unsheathed in the first place. Only the epitome celestials were able to recognize the auras of the divine weapons from afar.

The Northern Tyrant was a friend of Ximen Nanqing the protégé master of the Dominating Aura Clan. Together, they had forged an unlikely alliance to dominate the Celestial Realm.

Imagine the horror of the Northern Tyrant when he had heard that Ximen Nanqing had been killed and the Dominating Aura Clan had been disbanded!

He quickly regrouped the celestial practitioners of the Dominating Aura Clan that had come to defect to his clan. He had come to confront the new master of the Tranquil City who had the audacity to rename the domain of the Dominating Aura Clan and cast out all the celestial practitioners that had survived.

His initial surprise was that of absurdity when he had heard of the first report, "A small group of unknown celestial practitioners has taken over the Dominating Aura City?! Ximen Nanqing has been defeated and his whereabouts are unknown?"

Subsequent reports by the surviving celestial practitioners of the Dominating Aura Clan that had defected to him revealed further information, "The Holy Ascension Sect has made their move against the Dominating Aura Clan, annihilating all other resistances. So this Yi Ping is just a lucky fellow that happen to be in the right place at the right time and is just picking up the remnants of that battle. But as long as Ximen Nanqing is still alive, then that Yi Ping won't last long and he will be in for a surprise."

That was because he knew what a powerful exponent Ximen Nanqing was. His martial strength, his intellect and his cunningness made him a foe not to be underestimated!

Then the death of Nanqing Ximen was suddenly announced and that the new Domain Lord of the Tranquil City had buried him decently!

He was stunned!

He quickly gathered some of his best fighters and contacted some of his celestial allies to seek vendetta for Ximen Nanqing!

Of course that was not his only purpose. Everyone knew that the Dominating Aura Clan was fabulous wealthy, with a large store of white celestium stones and precious celestium metals. So very naturally, he had the intention of seizing the Tranquil City for himself. But of course, the martial secrets of Ximen Nanqing must not be allowed to fall into the hands of others!

But now when he had witnessed the epitome skills of Yi Ping's group

and the pathetic state that they were in, he was more than startled!

He was thinking, "This Yi Ping can actually fight the Immortal Saint of Swords one to one. Even though the Immortal Saint of Swords has conceded but he has not really lost. Even though this Yi Ping has fallen but there is still the Universal Old Man..."

Quite a few of the visiting celestials were secretly looking at him and from their eyes, they were hinting. "They are just a few. We are many. If we all make our moves at the same time, surely we can overpower the Universal Old Man?"

Another was nodding as he looked at the fallen celestials, seeming to hint. "With so many dead here, our actions will surely be justified. After all, we are just seeking justice for the fallen and there are fallen celestials from more than twenty celestial clans here..."

Another celestial shook his head as though he was hinting as he looked at the Deadly Wanderer. "That will really depend on the cooperation of everyone but not all the other celestials want to fight or have the martial strength left now."

All of a sudden, Xuan Kong had stepped forward towards the middle of the grand hall, towards the Celestial Alice followed by Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You!

The hearts of many of the visiting celestials were pounding hard as they were afraid that Xuan Kong would seize the Celestial Alice first!

Even Lele and Lie Qing were provoked by their approach that they had quickly stepped in front of the Universal Old Man and the Celestial Alice!

Lele said coldly, "What do you want?"

Xuan Kong appeared to be humbled this time as he bowed respectfully, "We...we want to ascertain something."

Xuan Wei stammered, "Yes, that's right."

Lele asked coldly, "Oh? What is it?"

Xuan Kong looked past them as he looked at Yu'Er and Mei'Er,

stammering to answer. “Is that the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess?”

Mei’Er paused briefly while Yu’Er continued to use her intrinsic internal energies to stabilize the conflicting sword energies within Yi Ping’s body. She turned around to say, “Yes? I am the Axis Heaven Goddess.”

Xuan Kong began looked at his protégé brothers...

It was because even though they were the elders of the Ascension Sect in the lower realm and in the Celestial Realm, they had never seen the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess before. The Ascension Sect is a major celestial clan in the lower realm and many of the celestial practitioners of the Ascension Sect had actually meditated alone in their lofty mountains. Therefore they had never met them before.

However, they did know that the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess were among the first celestial practitioners of the Ascension Sect. In terms of seniority and ranking, they were their elders even though they had ascended first. The first to ascend was accorded a superior rank than those that was later except for the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect. And the Eclipse and Heaven Goddess were the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect!

It was because the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect had a different celestial practice than the others, requiring a far longer time than anyone else! Therefore they had a special position within the Ascension Sect!

Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You immediately bowed their hands to say respectfully, “My respects to the...”

But Mei’Er interrupted softly but her voice was awe-inspiring, “Forget it. You didn’t believe us at the start. You should leave immediately.”

Xuan Kong stammered, “But...you are our...”

Mei’Er said expressionlessly and her golden eyes were a bright golden, “Supreme Celestial, am I right? My divine soul, my holy body belongs to the Ascension Sect and to the Ascension Supreme. My mortal body, my

spirit to the Ascension Fire. You can tell that to the Lord Supreme. Now leave. We will pay a visit to the Holy Ascension Sect very soon.”

Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You gave a respectful bow before they made their way to the entrance.

The other visiting celestials were startled.

Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You were probably the best fighters that could possibly be on their side and now they had left!

The four ascendant priests were the elders of the Holy Ascension Sect and they were extremely respectfully to the maiden in the middle. They had been in the Celestial Realm long enough to know that the Supreme Celestials were not Golden Celestials to be trifled with even if injured. Moreover, quite a few of the celestials here had already sworn fealty to the Holy Ascension Sect and those celestial clans that did not, was not willingly to make enemies of the Holy Ascension Sect.

Therefore, twenty of the celestials immediately gathered their dead and walked off quietly!

The remaining thirty celestials were all hesitating and thinking of their next step!

Lele saw them and she said coldly, “You have not come here in goodwill and definitely not to attend our wedding. Why are you all still here? Are you trying to pick up a fight?”

Yunzi looked at the Celestial Alice as she said coldly, “They are thinking that since this Celestial Alice is being left behind then they may have a chance to obtain this divine sword.”

Yunzi had spoken their minds and immediately, several of the visiting celestials were flustering!

Lie Qing said coldly as she pointed her divine sword at them, “But it seems that they can’t do their math properly. If you want to seize the Celestial Alice and our divine swords, I am more than willing to fight with you.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said coldly, "And me as well!"

Youxue added coldly, "You can try me as well. Maybe I will actually drink their blood and their beating hearts to further my attainment."

She was joking of course but it was a threat that was real. The dark celestial practitioners were forced to drink the blood of the other celestial practitioners to prolong their lives.

Normally, these Golden Celestials were disdainful of the half-celestial practitioners who had not attained to their levels. Their golden eyes marked them as true celestials over the numerous half-celestial practitioners who had crimson eyes. But today, they were all smiling bitterly...

While they were still smiling awkwardly, Lele had reached out for the Celestial Alice to pull it up from the ground when she too, coughed out blood as she stepped back with a stunned look!

Lie Qing was startled, "Lele, what is happening?!"

Everyone was startled too!

Lele coughed weakly as she immediately circulated her internal strength. She answered quickly, "I...I can't pull the sword up. When I tried to do so, my internal energies immediately reverse upon myself!"

All of a sudden, everyone had a sudden realization. That was the reason why the Immortal Saint of Swords had dropped the Alice Celestial! Given the sword practice of the Immortal Saint of Swords, how was it possible for someone as highly attained as him to drop his own sword?!

That was the real reason why the Immortal Saint of Swords' fighting movements had become awkward all of a sudden!

That was what he meant by, "Impossible...Why did you betray me..."

And when the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage tried to pick up the Celestial Alice, he too had suffered internal injuries!

No wonder, the Immortal Saint of Swords and the Immortal Sword Sages had left without taking the Celestial Alice!

That was something that was improbable and out of the world even for everyone to understand!

The Universal Old Man was also staring at the Celestial Alice and trying to figure out...

The Deadly Wanderer offered a help, "If we cannot pull up the sword, then why don't we start by digging around it first?"

Immediately, there was some exciting muttering among the visiting celestials.

Even the Northern Tyrant was nodding and stroking his long beard in approval.

He was happily applauding his bright idea when Yu'Er got up and stared coldly at the visiting celestials in a not so amused manner. That was because judging by what Lele had said and piecing it together with what she had seen earlier, she knew that the Celestial Alice had already bound itself to the ground with the Universal Force. Even if they had used this method, it was completely futile.

She said exasperatedly as a powerful wave of malevolent air swept through the entire hall, "We need some quiet moments. Please leave or I won't be polite anymore."

The visiting celestials knew that she was serious.

Since they had no wish to offend the Holy Ascension Sect and they had no confident that they could defeat the Universal Old Man given their injuries and smaller numbers now, they reluctantly made their way to the entrance.

The Deadly Wanderer was reluctant to leave. Before he left, he actually had the audacity to say, "Maidens, if your bridegroom dies you can always look for me for comfort..."

But he quickly shut his mouth up when the maidens' cold stares and cold demeanors turned him to flight as he hastily made his exit!

Lele had already raised her long scythe to attack him but he was one

step ahead of her!

It was not long before all the visiting celestials had left the place but Yi Ping's situation was still extremely critical!

Lele voice was coarse from weeping, "How is he?"

Yu'Er replied softly, "No good. We can only hope to stabilize the conflicting six intrinsic energies in him but while the six intrinsic energies remained in him, we cannot treat any of his internal injuries..."

The Universal Old Man added as he gave Yi Ping another forceful push of his martial force on his heart, "No good. It is already a miracle that I can prolong his heart pulse this long..."

Lele was so upset upon hearing that she gave the Celestial Alice a kick, "Stupid Sword!" as she dropped a few tears on the sword. She was about to give the Celestial Alice a slice of her long wicked scythe when she was startled to see that Yi Ping was coughing out aloud!

All of a sudden, he had suddenly got up and startling everyone!

All the maidens were crying aloud, "Ping'Er, Yi Ping, Master Yi Ping!"

But Yi Ping did not seem to hear them as he staggered to the Celestial Alice which was next to him. As soon as he touched the metallic hilt of the Celestial Alice, it split into two different intricate black swords and there was a bright rainbow halo enveloping both swords!

As Yi Ping grabbed the Celestial Alice, he yelled aloud. Immediately, the six conflicting sword energies of the Ley Negative Sword Energies were expelled from him in a ring of spatial energies!

Yu'Er and Mei'Er immediately cried out, "Watch out!" as they deflected the deadly sword energies with Lie Qing and the Universal Old Man!

As Yi Ping fell onto the ground again, he was grasping both swords while muttering. "Celestial Antonym Alice...Celestial Synonym Alice..."

Chapter 103: Destinies Reunited

The white blue lofty view of the hundreds of mountain peaks, misty clouds and celestial birds was breathtaking, if not awe-inspiring. The inspiring picturesque scenery was as though it had come straight from a scroll painting!

Yi Ping was lying on the grassy meadows on one of the lofty mountains. Beside him were eleven enchanting maidens who were chatting excitedly and there was one old man...

Lele tapped the Universal Old Man on his shoulder, "What did you come here for? You are spoiling our wedding ceremonial!"

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly as he looked at the Heaveness, "It is you maidens that want me to be your witness here today..."

Lele waved her fingers, "It is them, not I. Why, you are thinking of barging into the bridal room later?"

When Yi Ping heard that, he began to cough aloud and he was suddenly flustered but he was not the only ones; all the other maidens were all flushing!

Lie Qing quickly said, "Sister, you....you are the one that has suggested it..."

The Universal Old Man was smiling bitterly...

Youxue said shyly, "This place seems deserted enough and far from prying eyes. I hope that this time there is no one else to disrupt our wedding."

Yu'Er and Yunzi nodded quietly, followed by the Stellar Heaven Fairy.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy took the hands of Youxue, "Little Sister, this place is remote enough. Don't worry."

Yi Ping got up and glanced at Lingfeng, Yixian, Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess. The last battle had taken a toll from them and their internal strength was spent. They would not be able to fully recovery in

short notice.

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, “Why the look? You don’t trust me? Have I not proven my loyalty to the group...”

Yi Ping panicky said, “More than enough. You have nearly lost your life for us all. You shouldn’t have done so...”

The Ascension Goddess lowered her head shyly as she said weakly, “As long as you understand, that is enough for me!”

Yi Ping looked tenderly at her for a while before he said, “I don’t really understand. How did you manage to evade all the attacks of the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage and how did you manage to break through his defenses at the final moment?”

Shen Xingyue broke into an angelic smile, followed by several of the maidens that began to giggle. “Finally! We are all wondering when you will ask me this! Of all time, you have chosen to ask on our wedding day? Such spoiler!”

Yi Ping protested weakly, “I...You know that since that last battle, we are all injured and we haven’t got the time to talk. I am sure that you are all curious as well, right?”

All the other maidens broke into giggles and Mei’Er exclaimed aloud, “Why should we? We already know...”

Yi Ping was startled, “You have already queried Ye Yin?”

Yu’Er laughed softly, “That is right!”

When Yi Ping saw the transformation that was in Yu’Er and Mei’Er, he could hardly believe his eyes. He had only noticed a comforting golden glow when he had launched himself at the Immortal Saint of Swords but he had failed to notice that they had transfigured into Golden Celestials!

Their transfiguration was not just their eyes and state of divinity, Yi Ping could feel a comforting and soothing feeling when he was near them. It was this reassuring feeling that pulled him back from the brink of death!

He could scarcely believe that they were highly attained Heaven Goddesses of the Ascension Sect even though they were still calling him, “Master Yi Ping.” But sometimes they were heard calling him the, “White Sage.”

The Ascension Goddess gave a playful look before she said teasingly, “What is in for me if I tell you? Will I be the first one to enter the bridal chamber tonight?”

Yi Ping began to have a deep flush as he rubbed his nose with a sniff and a trickle of blood could be seen as he remembered her sensual body.

He began to stammer, “I...I...” but in the end, his mind was in a blank!

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly as she ended her tease, “The Inverting Eternal Occurrence may be a most epitome sword art but it also demands the full focus of the practitioner. That is the opening that I need to place my stroke!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly.

That was because the way that she had phrased it was simply too casual and easy but in practice, it was almost impossible to execute!

Before anyone could do that, they would have been killed by the near impossible to evade sword energies of the Inverting Eternal Occurrence. If even the Ascension Goddess could not evade it, could anyone else have possibly evaded it?

Yi Ping muttered, “That is really too difficult.”

But the Ascension Goddess said solemnly, “If you have met the Immortal Saint of Swords again and you have to face his Inverting Eternal Occurrence, what are you doing to do about it?”

Yi Ping was momentarily stunned.

When the Universal Old Man saw that Yi Ping was stunned for words, he quickly said. “My protégé, don’t you worry too much. That old freak has suffered serious internal injuries. I say, he will need ten years to fully recover and I doubt that he will be able to use his Inverting Eternal

Occurrence at any time soon!”

Lingfeng nodded as she gave Yi Ping an alluring smile, “You are already very impressive. I wish that I can witness your duel with the Immortal Saint of Swords.”

Yi Ping sighed softly to himself, “What if the Immortal Saint of Swords has a miracle pill or have powerful martial practitioners to aid him?” He knew that this would not be the last time that he had heard of him...

The Ascension Goddess knew that Yi Ping was troubled and she tried to cheer him up, “That’s right. I heard that...”

She gave him a smile, “That when you are challenging the Immortal Saint of Swords, you are calling my name?”

Yi Ping was suddenly very flustered.

The Ascension Goddess reprimanded him lightly, “That is so foolish of you to challenge the Immortal Saint of Swords alone. He is someone above our league.”

She looked at the Celestial Alice on his back quietly before saying, “I still don’t understand how you manage to overcome an opponent such as the Immortal Saint of Swords...”

The Ascension Goddess and Lingfeng were not the only ones feeling pitiful on missing the duel. Even Yixian and Shen Xingyue were secretly sighing softly!

They would not understand how a martial practitioner was able to withstand a powerful energy practitioner like the Immortal Saint of Swords, one fatal hit after another!

While Lie Qing had witnessed the duel, she felt regretful that she was not the one that had challenged the Immortal Sword Sages or else her name would be one of the three that Yi Ping would call out!

Yi Ping had taken out the Celestial Alice to examine it. This divine sword felt amazing light in his hands. He swung the Celestial Alice casually in his hand and immediately a powerful windforce flurried

through the air, duplicating the effects of his Horizon Swordplay and Divine Horizon Hands except that he did not use much of an effort!

Yixian smiled gently at Yi Ping. In her eyes, there was only him!

As Yi Ping swung the Celestial Alice, he switched to hold it with both his hands before splitting the Celestial Alice effortlessly into the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice; at the split there were two rainbow halos enveloping the two divine swords!

The Celestial Synonym Alice was as light as the Celestial Alice in its original form. It did not become lighter while the Celestial Antonym Alice was surprising twice as heavier than the Celestial Alice and also twice as powerful!

As Yi Ping swung the Celestial Antonym Alice, the windforce that was generated had suddenly increased tremendously!

Lingfeng looked quietly at the Universal Old Man before saying, "I have heard of the Celestial Alice in the past. It was found in the thirty level of the Stellar Sanctuary. However, I didn't know that it is actually two divine swords in one. Only you are able to divide the Celestial Alice and wield it."

It was true.

When Yi Ping had shown them the Celestial Alice, none of the maidens and the Universal Old Man were able to separate the Celestial Alice, mystifying everyone!

But somehow Yi Ping was able to separate the Celestial Alice effortlessly!

The Universal Old Man laughed, "That is because Ping'Er has already divine harmonized with the Celestial Alice. Even the Immortal Saint of Swords did not have that level of attainment to divine harmonize with the Celestial Alice."

He seemed particular happy that the Immortal Saint of Swords was not able to utilize the full potential of the Celestial Alice. That was because he was a powerful opponent that they did not want to encounter in the

Stellar Sanctuary. Also, the Immortal Saint of Swords and the Lord Supreme had made the full use of their powerful positions in the Celestial Realm to seize the most number of artifacts from the Stellar Sanctuary each time while he was miserably picking up the pieces!

However, he had secretly taken a glance at the Heaveness. It was because there were still many things that they did not understand. For example, when Yi Ping had lent them the Celestial Alice and when they used it to duel with him, the Celestial Alice would become extremely heavy and would drop to the ground!

That was not the weird part if Yi Ping had divine harmonized with the Celestial Alice beforehand. But the same thing had happened exactly to the Immortal Saint of Swords! It was as though the Celestial Alice had recognized Yi Ping. But how was that possible? The Celestial Alice was a divine artifact of the Stellar Sanctuary and neither Yi Ping nor his previous incarnation, the White Sage had been to the Stellar Sanctuary or the Celestial Realm before!

Even the Heaveness had also told him, “I cannot enter his Emptiness Translucence anymore. His level of attainment seems to have been elevated and has shut me out.”

But that was not the most mystifying part!

The Celestial Alice was truly an Immortal Weapon!

When the Celestial Alice was split, the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness had recognized the true divine aura of the Celestial Alice as that of the Universal Force!

Other than the Heavenly Earth Sword, there existed an Immortal Weapon in the Celestial Realm!

The Universal Old Man was lamenting, “So we have sacrificed so many divine artifacts and our dear friend for nothing. All along, the key to the Gods’ Realm may be still in the Stellar Sanctuary...”

But the Heaveness had pointed out, “So what if you know that the Celestial Alice is the key? Are you able to divide the Celestial Alice? Are

you able to divine harmonized with the Celestial Alice? If we had not gone down to the lower realm, would we have met Yi Ping and found the Heavenly Earth Sword?”

Back to the present...

The Universal Old Man had proceeded to ask, “My protégé, do you know that each divine weapon have their own special characteristics and unique traits?”

Yi Ping nodded but he was not able to give a firm answer.

The Universal Old Man explained, “Take the Divine Echo, this divine sword is able to counter piercing sound waves. And the White Phoenix, this divine sword epitomized speed...”

Lie Qing interrupted of a sudden as she smiled, “I almost forget.”

She took a look at the Heaven Stellar Fairy who nodded in return before walking towards Yunzi, “Sister Yunzi, I have discussed with my ex-protégé mistress...”

She took out the White Phoenix, “You are also a protégé of the Virtuous Palace. So sister, therefore I have decided to pass the White Phoenix to my successor. It is a pity that given your high attainment in swordplay, you do not have any worthy swords to aid you.”

Lie Qing was the founder and grand patriarch of the Virtuous Palace! And she had picked Yunzi as the inheritor of her Invincible Divine Force too!

Yunzi gave a startled surprise, “This is too precious a gift...”

Lie Qing smiled gently, “We are not outsiders but close sisters. The next battle will be tough and we are going to need plenty of luck and help.”

Yunzi hugged Lie Qing tearfully...

The Ascension Goddess interrupted curiously, “Sister Yunzi, some of us have noticed that the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage is quite lenient towards you. Can you tell us the reasons?”

Since the Ascension Goddess had already asked, Shen Xingyue asked as

well. "That's right. Is it possible for you to tell us the reasons?"

Yunzi said quietly, "Actually I do not know too."

She raised the White Phoenix and glanced at herself through the reflective blade before saying disquietly, "They...the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage have actually imparted to me the full intrinsic formula of the Infinitude Divine Skill and the energy practice of the Infinity Swordplay... via the will of their Sword Intentions. I still got much to go before I can reach the energy level though."

Yi Ping and the rest were startled. They had never expected that the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and Infinity Sword Celestial Clan would do such a thing!

The Universal Old Man was full of disbelief, "That crafty fox must have a purpose for sure."

He turned to look at the Heaveness to affirm his suspicious but all of a sudden, he gave a long sigh. It was because the Heaveness was not even paying any scant attention to him but was looking dreamily at Yi Ping!

And she was not the only maidens that were doing the same!

Yi Ping had quietly walked to the edge of the lofty mountain and he seemed to be looking at a faraway place.

He did not seem to be enjoying the cool breezes and after a while he said quietly, "We are going to the Unmoving Mountains next. The Holy Ascension Sect is a major celestial clan on par with the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. But after the battle at the Holy Ascension Sect, do we still have the strength to enter the Stellar Sanctuary?"

The Ascension Goddess had walked quietly beside and held his hand, "The Holy Ascension Sect has more than a hundred Golden Celestials and several Supreme Celestials. Indeed, the fight won't be easy. Ping'Er, I got something to tell you. The Astronomic Stellar..."

Lingfeng sighed softly, "Maybe we shouldn't go to the Unmoving Mountains at all. That is as good as a suicidal undertaking..."

Yu'Er laughed softly, "Oh no, we are going to the Unmoving Mountains! Not to worry, when we are there, everything will be resolved on its own."

Mei'Er nodded mysteriously, "That's right. We have a plan."

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were startled.

Yi Ping was astonished, "You have a plan?"

Mei'Er nodded as she held Yi Ping gently, "Yes, we have a plan but that is not the most important thing we ought to do now, isn't it?"

Yi Ping asked curiously, "Is not?"

Lingfeng laughed as she rebuked him gently, "You dense oaf!"

Yu'Er and Mei'Er exchanged laughter as they looked at the other maidens before Yu'Er smiled shyly, "We....we have to complete our wedding ceremonial first!"

Chapter 104: The Astronomic Stellar Formation

Yi Ping pledged solemnly, “To the Heavens and the Earth I pledge!”

All the other maidens exclaimed one after another, “To the Heavens and the Earth I pledge...”

The Universal Old Man asked, “Yi Ping, are you willing to swear and to take them as your wives, protect them, never forsaking them and always love them?”

Several of the maidens, Shen Xingyue, the Ye Yin, Lele and Lingfeng immediately exclaimed aloud. “Hey! Wait! Isn’t that a little too mushy?! That isn’t part of the ritual right?”

Shen Xingyue was abandoned by the White Sage before she had become a celestial practitioner. When she was young, she was really excited to marry the White Sage and had memorized all the rites that were related to the marriage customs.

Lingfeng said exasperatedly, “Old Man! You are not taking this seriously, aren’t you? Where did you learn all this stuff from?”

The Universal Old Man protested, “My Heaveness! It...is my first time too. You know I didn’t know anything about mortal affairs or customs. I am just trying to make this as perfect as possible. And you know, I may look old but I am actually young so stop calling me old man all the time...”

Lingfeng said coldly, “Oh really?”

The Universal Old Man replied quickly, “Really. You are older than me...”

All of a sudden, Lingfeng had thrown three pebbles towards the Universal Old Man which exploded in mid-air as the Universal Old Man used his martial force to display the Ultrapowerful Force to intercept the attacking projectiles!

Lingfeng hummed coldly, "Don't evade my projectiles if you dare!"

The Universal Old Man panicky said, "I really dare not!"

Yi Ping interrupted panicky, "Lingfeng, protégé master, my two masters! It is alright. I will recite it. It really doesn't matter."

Lingfeng said coldly, "I only let you off just because Yi Ping says so!"

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly, "Yes, yes, yes...you haven't married and yet you are already listening to him. Have you forgotten about our years of friendship?"

For the first time, Lingfeng smiled at the Universal Old Man. "Oh? What friendship?"

All the other maidens were feeling amused but they knew that they were just teasing each other.

Yi Ping said his oath solemnly, "Heaven and Earth is my witness. Today, I am going to take Shui Yixian, Xiao Youxue, Shui Yujian, Shui Meijian..."

He glanced at the four maidens who were all in deep flush. At this moment, they seemed to have cast off their Emotionless Rhyme Skill completely!

He continued, "...Ji Lingfeng, Dugu Yunzi, Lie Qing..."

The three maidens had all lowered their glances shyly and were looking at one another when they recalled how they had all first met.

Yi Ping nodded tenderly at them while continuing, "...Huan Le, Shen Xingyue, Shi Shi, Ye Yin..."

The four maidens were all gasping softly as they looked shyly at Yi Ping when he had called out their names...

He paused for a while before raising his voice, "...as my wives, always protecting them, never forsaking them and always loving them!"

Shi Shi laughed softly, "Today is really a happy occasion!"

Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing were all smiling at the same time.

Ye Yin sighed softly, “To think that Xingyue and I will actually marry the same person. This is something that is so unexpected...”

Shen Xingyue laughed angelically, “If you can predict it then you must be regretting why you are not amicable to me in the past?”

Ye Yin laughed softly, “Right! If I have known about this earlier, I would surely be ten times as nice to you!”

Shen Xingyue turned solemn as she looked at Yi Ping quietly, “Ping’Er, we are betrothed by our families in the past but you have run away and have broken my heart...”

Yi Ping was immediately flustered. He could not deny or confirm it. When he saw Shen Xingyue for the first time, he was jolted and had remembered lingering memories of the White Sage and the Dark Enchantress.

On several occasions he had tried to convince himself. “There is no such thing as reincarnation.” But when he saw the look in Shen Xingyue’s eyes, the feeling of familiarity was so strong that he found it really impossible to shake it off...

Shen Xingyue smiled. “You may or may not be the White Sage. But does it matter to me now?”

When she had said that, Yu’Er and Mei’Er were suddenly flustered too.

Yu’Er said quietly, “You may not remember the past but you are the White Sage for sure. And you have the same distinct aura as him. Every person and everything has their own distinct auras. Your aura is unmistakably to us. You are indeed the White Sage!”

The Ascension Goddess was startled. She had long heard of the aura interpretation abilities of the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess. Their aura claircognizance abilities were so sharp that they could recognize insects and grass! That was their Midheaven Epiphanies Divine Skills!

Mei’Er said coolly as she looked at Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing. “As a matter of fact, we know every single celestial practitioner that we have

ever seen before. That includes everyone here. Even though some of you may not notice us but we had indeed spied on you in the past. Our protégé mistress is indeed Revelation Star and you are Melody Star (Lele) and Luminous Star (Lie Qing). All of you are the celestial practitioners of the Melody Palace.”

Immediately, Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing were startled as they took a step backward.

Mei’Er looked at Youxue with a smile, “You are the Endor Vixen Fairy, the most mesmerizing celestial maiden in the celestial practice fraternity and now in the Celestial Realm.”

Youxue began to fluster as she whispered softly, “Hmph! Mei’Er, later I settle with you for teasing me!”

Mei’Er laughed softly before looking at Yunzi, “And you are the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden from the Great Quiescent Sect. Given time and with your celestial practice, you will surely be one of the strongest celestial practitioners. In fact, the Ascension Sect has specifically identified you as one of the strongest contender to ascend!”

Yi Ping looked quietly at Yunzi. Through the memories of the White Sage, Yi Ping had remembered that the first time he had met the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden, he had actually been overwhelmed by her imposing quiescent aura. In fact the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden was a highly attained celestial practitioner that was about to ascend. But because she had taken him as her protégé, her ascension was delayed.

As a matter of fact, the White Sage had caused her quiet mediation to be delayed or else she would have already ascended to the Celestial Realm long ago!

The Celestial Ocean Heavenly maiden was one of the most highly attained celestial practitioners whose renowned rivaled the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess!

The Ascension Goddess was startled as she gasped, “Yunzi is the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden?!”

The Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden was her senior in the celestial practice fraternity. But for unknown reasons, she had not ascended.

She had been in the Celestial Realm for the past one hundred years. One hundred years in the Celestial Realm was equivalent to one thousand years in the lower realm! But she had no news of either the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden or Shen Xingyue whom she considered her greatest rival in the Celestial Realm. It was something that had been baffling her!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed softly, "What a pity..." The Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden was her contemporary. The Melody Palace and the Great Quiescent Sect were very close and were ranked two of the three most powerful celestial clans in the lower realm but yet they had virtually no presence in the Celestial Realm...

Yunzi seemed to know their thoughts as she laughed softly, "No matter. There is nothing to be pitied about."

She took a forlorn look at Yi Ping and smiled quietly at him.

Yi Ping began to fluster. All of a sudden Yi Ping looked at Yu'Er and Mei'Er, asking. "Yu'Er, Mei'Er, how come you can remember your previous self?"

Yu'Er looked silently at Yi Ping before she took a look at Yixian but she did not say anything while Mei'Er looked at Lele and the Heaveness...

Finally Mei'Er answered softly, "We can't be sure but we think that Revelation Star had created a new type of celestial formation to bring together three others who shared familiarities with her sisters' destinies and to replay their lost celestial practice. Then something happened..."

Yi Ping muttered incoherently to himself out of the blue as a headache seized him, "It is my entire fault. I am the one that cause the deaths of everyone...I hurt everyone...I am the one that force Yixian to suicide...the White Sage gave up his celestial practice to fulfill Revelation Star's hopes..."

Yixian quickly caught hold of him as she said gently, "No matter!" But

there were tears in her eyes. "It is all in the past. We are together now..."

Lie Qing said quietly, "That's right. We are together now. It doesn't matter who we are in the past. We are not going to live in the shadows of any others. We are ourselves."

She looked coyly at Yi Ping and smiled. She did not care for the White Sage except for Yi Ping!

Seeing the solemn mood all of a sudden, the Universal Old Man interrupted with a merry laughter, "To think that today I am going to be a witness to the Heaveness wedding..."

Lingfeng glanced at him with a cold smirk, "It is everyone and not just my wedding except for yours. Hurry up and finish the ceremony."

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly, "Right, right..."

"Bow to the Heavens and the Earth!" The Universal Old Man declared solemnly.

Yi Ping and the eleven maidens kneeled together and bowed!

The Universal Old Man said aloud, "Husband and wives bow to one another!"

Yi Ping and the eleven maidens bowed to one another but they were all smiling at one another discreetly while hiding their secret thoughts that they had intended for Yi Ping later!

The Universal Old Man announced, "That it! The rites are done! You are all happily married and no one, nothing is going to disturb any one of you today!"

Lingfeng took a quick glance at the Universal Old Man who responded quickly, "No one is going to disturb any of you today except for me. I am going off now of course."

All the other maidens began to laugh, "Go, go, go! And don't come back!"

But all of a sudden, the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man had turned ashen at the same time; huge columns of white mists were rapidly

forming and enveloping everything in all directions!

At the approach of the mists, trees began to dry up and the green grasses turned to brown in an instant!

The air around them had suddenly turned extremely cold!

Lie Qing asked, "Why is there a fog all of a sudden and it is freezing cold now?"

The Universal Old Man panicky shouted, "Everyone, be careful! Quickly exercise your vital breath!"

Lingfeng quickly raised her fingers to do some quick calculations.

The Universal Old Man panicky asked, "It can't be right?"

Lingfeng closed her eyes as she mediated quietly with her Heavens Eyes while moving her fingers in rapid succession to divine the outcome.

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were startled as they exclaimed aloud in confusion!

Yi Ping asked panicky as he looked at the rolling white mists that were around them, "These white mists? What is going on?"

Even the Ascension Goddess did not know how to answer Yi Ping but she had already broken into cold sweats!

Lingfeng said quietly and she was trembling, "These white mists are not ordinary mists. We...are now in the Astronomic Stellar Formation..."

The Universal Old Man said nervously too, "Impossible...the Astronomic Stellar Formation shouldn't possible descend at this time. To think we are so unlucky...I don't know what is going on too but it is true that we are now in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Unless we can find a way out soon, we are all going to die."

Yi Ping and the other maidens with the exception of Lingfeng were looking at the Universal Old Man with stunned horror.

Yunzi coughed weakly as she asked, "Why is the Astronomic Stellar Formation in this place?"

Lele muttered, "We are all going to die?"

The Universal Old Man answered solemnly, "That is right. In the past when we had entered the Astronomic Stellar Formation, we are always careful in determining the positioning of our entrance. But this...we are in the middle of nowhere! The Astronomic Stellar Formation has actually formed in our midst...this...alas!"

The entire place had turned extremely cold and Yunzi was the first to suffer from the ill effects of the cold!

Yi Ping immediately tapped Yunzi gently on her shoulder and expelled the cold from her with his internal strength as he said, "Yun, I am here. I will protect you!"

Yunzi nodded appreciatively and her heart was overwhelmed by his gesture!

She muttered quietly, "Ping'Er, you have not recovered from your internal injuries yet. Don't aggravate your injuries because of me."

Yi Ping said coolly, "I am alright. Don't worry too much for me..."

Lingfeng interrupted by issuing a warning, "Everyone stays close to one another! Be careful of our steps! If we miss a footing, we may plunge right off the cliff!"

It was because the thick mists had reduced the visibility levels and everyone could hardly see one another!

Yi Ping panicky said, "We need to find a way out!"

Shen Xingyue was bemused, "Of all places, we have to pick a peak. Of all places, the Astronomic Stellar Formation has chosen to descend on us..."

All of a sudden, Lingfeng gave her a curious look. "You are right. Of all places, why did the Astronomic Stellar Formation has chosen to descend on us?"

Lele asked, "Is it pure coincidences?"

As she had said that, there were several waves of powerful earthquakes

and shockwaves!

Even though everyone was almost caught off guard by the sudden earthquakes, they were quick to balance their footings.

The Universal Old Man shouted, "Earth changes! Be careful! Earth changes are frequent occurrences in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Mountains can be raised or plunged here! Because we cannot see clearly here, many of the celestials had actually plunged to their deaths in the past!"

Lingfeng said solemnly, "These earthquakes won't cease until the Astronomic Stellar Formation is lifted. Do not underestimate these earthquakes and shockwaves. It won't be before long our hearings and senses will be affected by the endless rumblings. That will eventually impair our abilities to make proper judgments. That is not the worst yet..."

Lie Qing said solemnly, "The extreme cold here will also sap our strength and martial strength slowly. We don't have inexhaustible internal strength to keep ourselves warm as long as we are in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Even if we don't plunge to our deaths, we will also die from the cold..."

Yu'Er looked at Shen Xingyue, Ye Yin, Shui Yixian and Yi Ping before saying, "Moreover, some of us have not fully recovered from the last recent fight..."

Yi Ping smiled weakly, "I am alright. Don't worry for me. Ye Yin, Yixian, Xingyue, Lingfeng..."

Everyone could tell that Yi Ping was forcing himself. He had suffered both physical and internal injuries. His wounds were healing badly as injuries inflicted by sword energies were extremely difficult to heal. That Yi Ping was still able to stand was a miracle by itself!

The Ascension Goddess was also injured by deadly sword energies and had nearly lost her life. Even after recuperating for three months, she had not recovered her internal strength yet.

As for the Celestial Fairy Shui Yixian, the Heaviness Lingfeng and the Fiery Phoenix Shen Xingyue, they had expended their internal strength to save the Ascension Goddess. Even after three months had passed, they were still unable to recover fifty percent of their former martial strength!

Yixian smiled gently, "This amount of cold means nothing to me. I have often meditated in the snowstorms."

All of a sudden, Yixian, Lingfeng, Shen Xingyue, Yu'Er, Mei'Er and the Ascension Goddess gave a startled cry. It was because they were the first to sense a powerful killing malevolent aura that was heading their way!

The Ascension Goddess said weakly as she trembled, "This killing malevolent...is so strong..."

Lingfeng quickly said aloud, "Follow me!"

Everyone began to follow Lingfeng but they were all soon bewildered.

Lele asked curiously, "There are so many of us here. Why are we are fleeing from a single opponent?"

The Universal Old Man had completely turned ashen as he interrupted sternly, "Move! Do not engage anything in this place without the permission of the Heaviness and I. This place has now turned into the most dangerous place in the entire Celestial Realm. Quick, follow the Heaviness. We can talk while we are moving."

Yi Ping was startled. His protégé master was rarely serious but this time he was deadly serious!

All of a sudden, he had heard a bellowing thunderous roar that shook the entire ground. The shockwaves of the thunderous roar had even exceeded the tremors of the continuous earthquakes!

Lele gasped aloud as she asked in fright, "What is that?"

Lingfeng said quietly, "That is the Kirin, a powerful mythical beast. There is no way we can win against it. You have no idea how powerful it is...we got to move fast."

The Universal Old Man was trembling as he said quietly, "Many of our

friends, the Ancient Celestials were killed by the monstrous Kirin. They all thought that they have a chance given their state of divinity but the truth is not. The Kirin is covered with impervious scales and is extremely scorching to the touch. Mere flesh will simply be scorched on contact.”

Yi Ping was startled, “It must be a terrifying monster...”

The Universal Old Man nodded, “The Kirin is an extremely sure-footed monster with extreme agility despite its monstrous size. Once, we witnessed a battle between a Kirin and several celestial experts of the Celestial Realm. The Kirin was lured into a pre-emptive trap that plunged it down a steep mountain cliff. But before the celestial experts could celebrate, the Kirin was back to the top again and massacring everyone.”

Lingfeng said softly, “No one has ever escaped from the Kirin before. Their leaps can cover a mile in just a few blinks of an eye. When the Kirin has taken notice of you, it won’t give up until you are dead. So never engage it. It will always remember your scent!”

All of a sudden, earthshaking thunderous roars were heard in all directions!

Lingfeng was extremely pale as she said quietly, “The Kirins have picked up our scent...”

Ye Yin said softly, “They are coming in three different directions. West, Northwest and East.”

Lingfeng nodded, “We must hurry but be careful. There are steep cliffs all around us.”

As Lingfeng hurried along with the rest of the group following her, she took out a handful of sticks. “Everyone, draw one stick quickly.”

When the Universal Old Man saw the sticks, he had immediately turned ashen as he murmured. “Do we have to do this?”

All the other maidens were startled.

Yi Ping asked, “What is this for?”

Lingfeng said, “The shortest ones will be responsible to lure the Kirins

away from the rest.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy Shi Shi picked a stick, “Who is afraid of the draws?”

Yunzi laughed softly, “That’s right. Someone has to sacrifice for all of us.” And she too picked a stick.

Youxue said coldly as she picked a stick, “That’s right. No matter what is the outcome of this draw, I am the willing and have no one to blame.”

Lie Qing laughed softly as she picked a draw, “That’s right! It will be interesting to fight the Kirin on my own, yes?”

Yixian said gently, “It is my turn!” She picked without any hesitation!

Lele laughed softly as she picked her draw, “The Joyful Goddess isn’t going to be cowed by some beasts.”

Shen Xingyue nodded as she draw a stick, “Life and death is predestined.”

Yu’Er said nonchalantly, “We are all sisters now and married at the same time. Isn’t this the right time to show some solidarity?”

Mei’Er took a longing glance at Yi Ping as she picked a draw...

She had secretly draw a stick and break the hidden halve of her stick as she thought, “My stick is the shortest. I shall lure the Kirin away...”

Ye Yin tapped her foot with a smile before she picked a draw, “I am not afraid either.”

The Universal Old Man said solemnly, “Now it is my turn.”

Yi Ping looked at Lingfeng who was quietly holding two remaining sticks as he coughed weakly, “You...Lingfeng...surely...”

Lingfeng said emotionlessly, “Now it is your turn.”

As soon as Yi Ping reached out to pick the stick, Lingfeng hit his fingers aside to reveal a long stick as she quickly declared the last stick that was in her fingers. “I have the shortest stick. When the Kirin comes, I will lure the beast away.”

Yi Ping was startled as he protested immediately, "Lingfeng! You..."

Yu'Er and Mei'Er had interrupted at the same time, "I have the shortest too!"

Lingfeng said gently, "Very good. After me, Yu'Er and Mei'Er will be the next decoys."

She looked gently at Yi Ping, "I know all your little tricks. You want to break the stick after you have drawn it. Unfortunately, you have one of the longest stick."

All the other maidens were quiet. It was because they had all secretly broken their own sticks but Lingfeng, Meijian and Yujian had seized the initiative to be the decoys!

The Universal Old Man sighed sadly, "What is love? Love is the most mysterious thing ever..."

Lingfeng's eyes had become very ancient as she exchanged longing glances with Yi Ping, "Love is unconditional and self-sacrificing. If...there is a next lifetime, I will want to be with you again..."

All of a sudden, Lingfeng kissed Yi Ping gently on his lips...

Yi Ping muttered tearfully, "Lingfeng...you are leaving me alone again? That time after the battle at the Honor Manor, you have risked your life to carry me away. You have even risked your life to draw the pursuers from us that day..."

All of a sudden, something landed with a tremendous impact on the ground, sending shockwaves of martial force, dusts and debris rippling throughout the vicinity!

The martial shockwaves were so powerful that Yi Ping had to muster all his entire martial power to steady himself as he raised his arms in front of his face!

After he had steadied himself, he was stunned to see the shadow of a huge colossal beast that had a dragon head in the thick mists that were in front of him! And the colossal beast was breathing with a rumbling

that was resonating loudly!

Yi Ping who was normally fearless, had suddenly realized that his fingers were trembling lightly with fear; that was because the martial level between them were simply too vast!

So startled by the suddenly appearance of this colossal beast that everyone with the exception of Lele and Lingfeng were all experiencing varying degree of fear!

Lingfeng said quietly, "This is the Kirin. I will lure it away. Don't turn back please..."

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But before Lingfeng had finished her warnings, Yi Ping had already given a great tremendous shout as he mustered his entire martial power; there were three circular rings of martial force from the ground that burst around Yi Ping as he displayed the Asper Divinity!

The Universal Old Man was shouting, "Yi Ping wait! That is a Kirin..."

There was a brazing trail of dust when Yi Ping had sped towards the Kirin, leaping upon it when he was near as he hacked with the Celestial Alice!

In that singular instant, time seemed to freeze in a drag when the Celestial Alice struck with a tremendous jarring blow as fiery sparks ignited across the body of the monstrous Kirin!

The Kirin gave a bellowing roar that shook the heavens and the earth, reacting with an instantaneous reflex as it raised its claw to slam Yi Ping onto the ground with a thunderous shocking impact as everyone looked in stunned horror at the gory splash of blood!

Except for a few broken scales, the Kirin was not in the least injured!

The Kirin was about to leap forward to the rest of the onlookers when a bloodied Yi Ping had got up again as he gave the Kirin a double slash with the Celestial Antonym Alice and Celestial Synonym Alice, muttering defiantly "You are not going to hurt anyone..."

However, even though this first double impact was even more powerful than Yi Ping's initial hit, it did not even scratch the Kirin or moved it a bit!

The Kirin instinctively slammed its claw onto Yi Ping with a mighty thunderous force but this time the unbelievable thing had happened; Yi Ping had raised his double swords, exercising his entire martial power as he blocked the attack!

The force of the impact was so tremendous that Yi Ping was left foaming with blood but he continued to persist with the will of his Absolute Spirits!

Yi Ping had actually stopped the attack of the Kirin, much to the astonishment of the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness!

But before the Kirin could make another attack on Yi Ping, the Heaveness Lingfeng had struck the Kirin at the side of its face with an explosive blow of her Divine Invigorate Force in an attempt to distract it!

But Lingfeng was immediately sent flying backward by the rebound force and the scorching body heat of the Kirin!

At the same time, the Universal Old Man was also flung off aside when he had struck the Kirin with his Ultrapowerful Force!

Almost instantaneously, everyone was hacking and striking the furious Kirin in all directions!

Yi Ping was startled that at this critical moment, everyone had joined in the fight, “Everyone...run!”

He would rather let himself be the decoy then let Lingfeng take his place! She had really done too much for him and he refused to let her do more!

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly as she swung her Despairing Heavenly Divine Sword at the Kirin while evading the Kirin’s attacks at the same time, “We are all in this together. You didn’t think that we will let you fight alone?”

All of a sudden, the Kirin had bellowed thunderously as it stumbled to the side slightly when Xiao Youxue had struck the Kirin with a thunderous explosive force, stunning everyone with her astonishing martial force!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped, “The Dominating Force! When did she learnt that?!”

The Celestial Fairy had barely evaded the maddening attacks of the

Kirin as she deflected a heavy blow from the Kirin with her Heavenly Earth Sword. It was Youxue's heavy concussion force that had saved her from taking the full blunt of the Kirin's attacks!

Yixian was astonished as she thought silently, "Youxue can hit the Kirin with her bare hands without any ill-effects?!"

But before Youxue could make another move, she had screamed aloud as the Kirin had knocked her aside with a mighty hit in the next instant, sending her flying into the mists!

Yi Ping gasped aloud, "Youxue!"

Yi Ping was moved to anger as he raised the Celestial Antonym Alice and Celestial Synonym Alice in a furious flurry of strokes as he swung his two divine swords from left to right continuously, hitting the Kirin with thunderous impacts with every hit!

The Kirin responded by smashing at Yi Ping multiple times with its claws but Yi Ping reacted intuitively by slashing furiously at its claw and body with the Celestial Antonym Alice and Celestial Synonym Alice!

In a blink of an eye, Yi Ping and the Kirin had exchanged dozens of lethal attacks that caused the surroundings to be enveloped with burning windforce and explosive shockwaves!

Yi Ping had left hand swung the lighter Celestial Antonym Alice with the Asper Horizon and right hand swung the heavier Celestial Synonym Alice with the Ultrapowerful Force, displaying both martial force techniques in quick exchanging succession!

Everyone was startled at Yi Ping's dazzling sword art!

Lele, Yunzi and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were in awe as they thought, "That is our Yi Ping?"

Even the Heavenness was gasping silently, "Is that really the Yi Ping that I know?"

The Ascension Goddess gasped secretly to herself, "Ping'Er is so badly injured and yet he still has that much strength? Is he immortal? I have

never seen anyone that fight like this or disregard his self...”

Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing both gasping with astonishment, “This...! Ping’Er can tank the attacks of the Kirin while attacking at the same time?!”

The Celestial Fairy Yixian was gasping silently, “The Perfect Swordplay! Why is it so vaguely familiar to the sword stances that Yichi had shown me...”

Yichi had once displayed a strange swordplay as she teased her with it, “My little protégé sister, come and look at this swordplay that I have just created. I am thinking that I can further refine this swordplay with my finger stances, combining attack, defense, power and speed together. Then won’t this be wonderful?”

Yixian had laughed, “There is no such thing and no such swordplay in this world or else it would be the Perfect Swordplay!”

Yichi laughed softly, “My little protégé sister, then I shall name it as the Perfect Swordplay! In practice, this may still be difficult to realize but in theory, it is still possible!”

Yixian shook her head with a gentle smile, “You are the Emerald Mistress of the Eternal Ice Palace. Whatever you say, I cannot disagree even though everything adds up together is like a delicious cabbage to me!”

Yichi pretended to be upset as she commanded sternly, “Then tonight, you shall only eat cabbages!”

Later before Yichi had breathed her last, she had displayed the Perfect Swordplay in the form of several finger stances to her little Yi Ping...

And now, Yixian was watching the sword stances of the Perfect Swordplay that were being enacted in front of her!

The truth was that Yi Ping was already faltering! He had combined the Absolute Spirits with his attack, defense, power and speed, evolving his assaults into the Absolute Attack, Absolute Defense, Absolute Might and Absolute Speed at the same time!

It was because both the Asper Horizon and the Ultrapowerful Force were powerful martial force attacks and were extremely draining! But Yi Ping had executed more than twenty Asper Horizons and twenty Ultrapowerful Forces in just a few blinks of an eye without respite!

Yi Ping was already at his limit as he coughed out blood. His eyes were bloodshot as he raised the Celestial Alice again and again as he withstood one hammering blow after another while slashing furiously at the body of the Kirin!

All the maidens were startled as they increased their attacks on the Kirin hoping to distract it as they pleaded aloud, “Yi Ping...Ping’Er...please run...”

It was because at the rate that Yi Ping was using his martial power, it was as good as killing himself!

The Kirin was bellowing aloud in fury!

It was experiencing pain for the first time!

After Yi Ping had continuously hit it on the same spot with dozens of powerful strikes, the Universal Force that was contained within the Celestial Antonym Alice and Celestial Synonym Alice caused the Kirin such agonizing pain that it broke through its impervious scales!

All of a sudden, Yi Ping yelled aloud as the blood of the Golden Kirin splash on him, searing him with agonizing pain! But he ignored the agonizing pain as he gave another yell by leaping forward, slashing the Kirin and defending with the Celestial Alice against the sharp talons of the Kirin!

Yi Ping’s arms were numbed from the nonstop slashing but somehow he continued to persist in his attacks. He could feel the air getting hotter and hotter. He knew that his martial force was nearly spent and he was experiencing the scorching heat of the Kirin as he thought weakly, “Is that the end of me?”

The rest of the group was not idle either as they made furious attacks at the Kirin hoping to distract the Kirin from him; they could see how

utterly exhausted Yi Ping was and how every moment was crucial but they could not get past the Kirin to rescue or aid him...

Yunzi had struck the Kirin on its head with her Flying Sword Technique using the White Phoenix Sword while Lie Qing had unleashed her Pandora Merciless Strike but their attacks simply bounced off the Kirin as though they were throwing sticks on it!

Only Yi Ping's attacks had an effect on it and it was causing the enraging strength of the Kirin to be doubled as it retaliated against him!

Yi Ping could feel all his strength giving way. This was the first time that he had felt so hopeless and useless. Against a divine beast such as the Kirin, he had totally no hope of triumphing!

All of a sudden, there was a piercing whistling that resonated throughout the vicinity!

This caused the Kirin to stand still completely!

Even when the Ascension Goddess, Shen Xingyue, the Universal Old Man, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Lie Qing and Yunzi were all still attacking and hitting the Kirin, it did not move or retaliate at all!

This gave Lingfeng the opportunity to snatch Yi Ping from the claws of the Kirin and to rescue him, "Ping'Er, are you alright?"

Yi Ping upper body had completely gone stiff and numbed. He could only muttered, "Lingfeng...run please...I...this divine beast is simply too strong. Why don't you run..."

Lingfeng smiled weakly, "If you are gone, is there a purpose for my existence?"

All of a sudden, the Kirin gave a thunderous roar that shook the ground thunderously. To the astonishment of everyone, the Kirin had suddenly retreated into the thick mists!

Everyone began to crowd around Yi Ping as they all dropped to the ground, exhausted from the fighting!

Shen Xingyue quickly examined Yi Ping's pulse as she broke into cold

sweat, "Ping'Er, you must not use your martial strength again or else your life will be at risk. Is that understood? That is too reckless of you earlier..."

Lingfeng nodded quietly, "That's right..."

Lele was murmuring, "Ping'Er, don't you leave before me!"

Lie Qing had cuddled herself next to Yi Ping as she breathed hard, "Ping'Er, I am so glad that you are alright. I was so worried for you earlier..."

But Yi Ping was muttering, "Youxue...where is she? Is she alright?"

Youxue laid her hands on him as she said weakly but at the same time she was extremely touched that Yi Ping did not forget her, "I am alright... my Golden Impervious Body manages to tank the hit for me. I...had lost conscious briefly but Lele had revived me..."

Yi Ping muttered, "Are we all still here..."

Lie Qing laughed softly but she was actually in tears, "Yes, we are all still here. Only you have the worst injuries. Worry about yourself first!"

Yixian muttered, "Why did the Kirin suddenly retreats? In just a few moments more, it would have massacred us all..."

Everyone was quiet. It was true.

Even though the battle with the Kirin was extremely brief, the fight had totally sapped their strength and aggravated their injuries.

Lele smiled weakly as she tried to cheer everyone up, "At least we are all still alive. If we are still alive, we can surely escape from the Astronomic Stellar Formation. So what does it really matter if we know what the Kirin is thinking about? Well, this formation doesn't seem too difficult to escape, right?"

Everyone was quiet. They could not even battle past a single Kirin and moreover, there were still many more of these Kirins that were in this formation!

The Heaveness muttered, "There is a whistle earlier..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy added, "And the Kirin retreats after hearing it..."

Lele raised her Divine Echo towards the direction of the whistle, "Whatever it is. It is causing the Kirin to be fearful of it. We should go in that direction, am I right to say so?"

Yunzi said solemnly, "That may not be the right decision to make. Maybe the Kirin has a master and it could be a mistake to go in that direction."

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "Ping'Er, what do you think?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "If we go in any other directions, the outcome may not be easier. If we have to face the Kirins and the unknown, maybe we should gamble on the unknown?"

The Ascension Goddess nodded uneasily, "Maybe yes, maybe no. But we better hurry. There are two more Kirins heading in our direction now..."

Everyone turned ashen. They had almost forgotten about it...

The Universal Old Man sighed softly, "I guess that we have no other choice. Let us head towards the direction of the whistle."

He had barely taken a step forward when he noticed that none of the maidens were following him. He immediately turned around to take a look and saw that all the maidens were crowding around Yi Ping as they all wanted to be the ones to support Yi Ping!

The Universal Old Man groaned softly, "I am the odd one out?"

Even though his mutterings were soft and the earthquakes were constantly rumbling, it was still audible to these martial experts. But somehow, they had all chosen to ignore the Universal Old Man!

The Universal Old Man muttered, "It is always good to have strong members in the party. There is nothing scarier than having stupid pigs in the party..."

But this time, the maidens were all looking coldly at him.

Lingfeng asked coldly, "Who are you referring to as pigs?"

But the Universal Old Man had already walked away rapidly as he murmured, "That...that is just a metaphor..."

Lele scoffed coldly, "It is lucky thing that he has run away or else..."

Mei'Er laughed softly, "That is right! Or else he is dead. He dares to call us stupid pigs!"

Yunzi said softly, "I am thinking that the Universal Old Man did not want to disturb us..."

Yu'Er nodded, "He has a kind heart..."

Yi Ping sighed softly as he looked lingering at the maidens while muttering, "Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Yunzi, Ye Yin, Youxue, Xingyue, Shi Shi, Lingfeng..."

He looked at them quietly while he coughed weakly.

Time passed and they lost track of the time. In that single instant, they all had eyes for each other. They did not know if they could survive the next battle and did not care. They decided to cherish this moment of peace instead!

All of a sudden, the Universal Old Man reappeared from the mists; he was flustered but he was also waving excitedly, "Come over here! I saw something!"

Lingfeng asked, "Why are you back so fast? What did you see?"

The Universal Old Man was suddenly solemn, "You will soon know! Quick, follow me!"

The group immediately followed the Universal Old Man and they were all wondering what would possible caused the Universal Old Man to be so excited.

Lingfeng was curious too. She had rarely seen the Universal Old Man this excited for a long time.

In a little while, they noticed that the mists were not as thick here and visibility had actually improved!

Lingfeng was startled, "The mists are actually dispersing here?"

The Universal Old Man nodded excitedly, "If I am not wrong, then this must be the center of the Astronomic Stellar Formation! After so many years, we have finally found the center of the vast Astronomic Stellar Formation! There is something more and we are reaching soon!"

Then they saw a sight that astonished and stunned them at the same time!

In front of them was a white monument palace that was made entirely of celestium. It was impossible towering. No one could tell how vast this monument palace was, for the perimeters of this towering white palace was enveloped by the thick mists!

The white monument palace was situated on a higher peak and there were thousands of celestium steps leading to it!

The flight of white celestium stairs was equally grand, measuring twenty feet long and two feet in height!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was stunned as she muttered, "Who can possibly build this?"

Lingfeng replied, "Maybe no one. This palace only exists within the Astronomic Stellar Formation itself. My guess is that this palace that we can see here is but an optical illusion. It may feel real but is actually immaterial. Only the inside is what we may be seeking for and is real."

Yi Ping muttered, "That...is a little too hard to understand..."

The Ascension Goddess was thinking, "My protégé master had told me before that the Astronomic Stellar Formation is the key to unravel the secrets of the Stellar Sanctuary. Is this the place?"

She quickly stepped on the white celestium step and kicking it while asking. "This palace is really an illusion? Even the steps feel real..."

Lingfeng explained patiently, "This is the first time that we have found anything like this in the Astronomic Stellar Formation but these types of structures are commonplace in the Stellar Sanctuary. I have my reasons

to suspect that this is just an immaterial illusion. It was because whenever the Stellar Sanctuary had descended, everything in it seemed to be restored to its original pristine state. I find it unbelievable that someone would actually bother to go through such lengths to repair the damage done by the celestial practitioners as they stormed the Stellar Sanctuary.”

Youxue sighed softly at the number of steps, “I wonder how many steps there are. By the time we have climbed on top, we will be half-dead...”

Yu’Er smiled, “Ten thousand steps to be exact. No more, no less!”

Everyone except Mei’Er was startled.

Yi Ping asked, “Yu’Er, you can count the number of steps?”

Yu’Er laughed softly, “Yes, of course.”

Mei’Er added gently, “It is just a small feat.”

Yixian gave a gentle smile as she blinked her eyes at them, “What a transformation. Yu’Er and Mei’Er have become so impressive.”

Mei’Er replied shyly, “Protégé Mistress, you are...teasing us!”

Yixian rebuked them gently, “Don’t call me protégé mistress anymore. I am not. We are close sisters now, alright?”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er both nodded shyly as they stole a glance at Yi Ping...

The Universal Old Man said grimly as he sighed softly, “But no matter, we have finally found the center of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. I wonder what secrets it can possibly hold. I think other than us; no other celestials have actually come this close to unraveling the Astronomic Stellar Formation...”

“Indeed!” A voice had resonated!

All of a sudden, everyone had turned ashen!

It was because someone had actually approached them without anyone of them knowing!

They quickly looked up and saw an absolute stunning heavenly maiden

at the top of the mountain steps!

Even though she was standing quite a distance away, they could still see her delicate features clearly for they were all martial experts. She had three tiny pink petals that were engraved on her forehead. Her eyes were golden but either the Universal Old Man or the Heaveness could tell from her state of divinity if she was an Ancient Celestial or a Golden Celestial. She seemed extremely forbidding and cold.

The Universal Old Man was looking at her as though he wanted to devour her. It was because she was dressed thinly in white and in a short revealing skirt. But she was also wearing a black translucent outer garment with strange circular insignia on it.

When the Ascension Goddess and the Heaveness saw the circular insignia, they gasped at the same time, "The celestium silk!"

The Universal Old Man took the initiative to ask her as he resonated towards her with the Thousand Mile Skill, "Maiden, who are you?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden did not reply but looked at everyone disquietly. She seemed particular interested in Yi Ping, looking at him more than a few times!

Finally, she said casually. "I am really curious..."

She seemed to look at Yi Ping, "...who the new master of the awakened Celestial Alice may be that can wake me from my eternal sleep. I have placed a seal on the Celestial Alice. Only a most righteous and selfless person can awaken the Celestial Alice and divine harmonize with her."

She seemed to mutter as she trembled lightly, "This is really such a person in the three known realms?"

All of a sudden she had recovered her composure as she said sternly. "This is the center of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. It is also where the intricate heart formula of the immortal practice can be found."

Everyone was stunned as they gasped aloud, especially the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness! It was because they had been searching for this secret for a long time!

They had always thought that this secret would be at the Stellar Sanctuary and not at the Astronomic Stellar Formation!

Lingfeng displayed her Thousand Mile Skill as she asked respectfully, “I don’t believe it will be this easy. Just who are you? Are you the one who was whistling earlier?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden replied coldly, “Just who I am? I have many incarnations and names. Perhaps, if you have been to the Stellar Sanctuary, you will know me as the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos.”

The Universal Old Man almost fainted on the spot as he gasped exasperating, “The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos is you!? That is impossible! The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos has already transmigrated to the Gods’ Realm now!”

Even Lingfeng found it impossible to believe her!

The forbidding heavenly maiden replied coldly, “I will count to a hundred. By the time I have counted to a hundred and you have not reached the top of the stairs, I will kill all of you. For those that are able to reach the top, I will grant you the honor of entering my true sanctuary and have a peek at the intricate heart formula of the immortal practice that is inscribed within the walls.”

Everyone was stunned!

Yi Ping smiled bitterly. It was because he had really no strength left and had to be supported by all the maidens!

Ten thousands steps! How was it possible to reach the top at the count of a hundred? Even if they were not injured, most of them would still not be able to make it to the top...

Youxue muttered coldly, “Why should we believe her...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden counted aloud, “One...Two...”

As she began her counting, two monstrous Golden Kirins had appeared from behind her, shocking and startling everyone!

The Universal Old Man immediately stammered, “Golden Kirins! The

most powerful of all the Kirins! How is it possible that these cold-blooded Kirins will be standing next to her and not attack her? Can it be...that she is really an Immortal Being?!"

The Ascension Goddess, Yi Ping and everyone were all stunned at the sight of the Golden Kirins. It was because only then did they sense the killing malevolent of the Golden Kirins!

The Golden Kirins had been invisible and had masked their presence yet none of them were able to sense anything out of the norm!

The forbidding heavenly maiden counted, "...Three..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was already trembling at the sight of the Golden Kirins as she muttered, "There...are...Kirins on top...do we really have to go up...?"

Almost all the maidens except for Lele and Lingfeng had all turned to jelly when they saw the Golden Kirins!

The forbidding heavenly maiden counted, "...Four...Five...Six..."

Lele panicky rallied everyone, "Why are we hesitating? If we stay down here, we will surely die. But if we try to reach to the top, we may have a hope!"

Yi Ping nodded as he shouted panicky to everyone, "Go! What are you all waiting for?! Don't wait for me!"

Chapter 106: The Four Aggregates Sword Formation

The forbidding heavenly maiden continued to count, "...fifty...fifty-one..."

Yi Ping's group had already climbed up to the three thousandth steps but they were all exhausted! It was extremely unlikely that they could reach the very top at the count of hundred!

Those who still had the strength helped to support one another, refusing to abandon anyone of them!

Shen Xingyue had grabbed Yi Ping and Yunzi as she ascended the stairs with startling speed but at the same time she had also slowed down to wait for the rest of the maidens...

When Yi Ping saw the startling speed that Shen Xingyue was able to grab him, he was startled. He asked weakly, "Xingyue, you have recovered from your internal injuries?"

Yi Ping was not the only one who was surprised.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped, "Your injuries..."

The Ascension Goddess inhaled weakly, "That is only because of the effects of her Divine Rejuvenate Force."

The forbidding heavenly maiden that was on the top continued to count resonantly, "...Sixty...Sixty-one..."

Shen Xingyue inhaled softly and her eyes were melancholy, "I have not recovered my strength fully and the last battle had taken a strenuous toll on me. This is still not good enough and we still can't reach the top in time..."

Everyone was quiet as they stared at the top...

How difficult was the concept of climbing ten thousand steps and reaching to the top? Each of the steps was two feet in height. Ten thousand steps meant that they had to ascend twenty thousand feet in height!

Even Shen Xingyue, Lele, Lingfeng, Youxue and Yixian who prided themselves in having the best swiftness and lightness skill were all not confident of reaching the top at the count of hundred!

It was an impossible task!

But yet, they continued to ascend the steps as quickly as they could even though they knew that it was an impossible thing!

Lele said nonchalantly, "Maybe she is just giving an empty threat to frighten us and the Golden Kirins are just a clever deception! I just don't believe that she is an Immortal being. At least, she doesn't look like one to me."

Yi Ping could not resist asking, "What is an Immortal being supposed to look like?"

Lele smiled shyly at him as she winked at him, "Of course he has to look like you! As for her, She is too full of killing malevolent and aloof to be a benevolent immortal being!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly at her assumption, not sure if he should agree or not.

But he soon said despondently as he looked at everyone, "Don't wait for me anymore. Without me...some of us may survive to the top..."

He was suddenly startled. It was because he had suddenly noticed that all the maidens were looking at him with affectionate eyes and revealing a thousand sentiments at the same time!

Yixian smiled gently, "Ping'Er, so fast you have forgotten that we are promised to one another?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy looked at everyone shyly, "And also close sisters now..."

Yunzi was smiling, "I have never been happier."

Youxue took a glance at the Celestial Fairy Yixian as she nodded while saying melancholy, "Knowing everyone is the best thing that has happened to me..."

Yu'Er had a lovely look in her eyes, "Without you, would Mei'Er and I remember who we really are?"

Mei'Er sighed softly, "That's right. It shows our sacrifice isn't in vain..."

She was referring to their sacrifice for the White Sage of course...

The Universal Old Man interrupted with a heavy puffing, "Don't drag me in..." But no one pay any heed at him.

Lie Qing said firmly, "We are not going to die just because she says so. Not without a fight, Kirins or not..."

Shen Xingyue said tenderly, "Ping'Er, we have so many missed chances..."

She looked tenderly at the Eclipse Heaven Goddess Yu'Er , the Axis Heaven Goddess Mei'Er and the Ascension Goddess Ye Yin before sighing regretfully, "I wish we can all be friends much earlier and not in this circumstances."

The Ascension Goddess said softly, "If I am not injured and little protégé sister Xingyue had not expended her internal strength to save me, together with Yu'Er and Mei'Er we may still have a hope..."

Yu'Er asked, "You mean the Four Aggregates Sword Formation?"

Mei'Er inhaled nervously and her eyes shone.

Yu'Er muttered, "The boundless generates the ultimate, the ultimate generates the two complementary forces, the two complementary forces generates the four aggregates forms, the four aggregates determine the myriads of complementary energy changes..."

The Ascension Goddess nodded, "That's right. It is said to be the most powerful sword formation of the Ascension Sect which requires four Supreme Celestials to form. It is created by the the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess..."

Mei'Er smiled weakly, "Unfortunately, this Four Aggregates Sword Formation is an incomplete swordplay."

Shen Xingyue was startled, "What do you mean?"

Yu'Er was a little embarrassed, "There is only Mei'Er and I. It is supposed to be a four person sword formation. Later when we have broken our divine swords, we have also stopped refining the sword formation. The Four Aggregates Sword Formation is given such a high accolade simply because it is created by us. Nothing more."

Lele said with a sudden inspiration as she looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "We still got the Celestial Star Sword Formation!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy smiled weakly at the suggestion but Lele proceeded to say delightfully, "Yixian, Lie Qing and I will form the first attack formation..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said gently, "Lele, the steps here are uneven so that makes the Celestial Star Sword Formation difficult to execute. Moreover, half of us are too tired to even move now and that will leave a vulnerable point for our opponent to break the formation. That will further endanger all of us."

Lele was exasperated as she struggled to take another step, "Surely we can do something?"

All of a sudden, she had noticed that everyone was looking at the forbidding heavenly maiden apprehensively. It was because the counting was about to reach its end!

"Ninety-Seven...Ninety-Eighty..."

The forbidding heavenly maiden stopped to appraise their entire group before saying coldly, "Ninety...nine!"

By this time, Yi Ping's group had all stopped in their tracks as they tried to recuperate as much vital breathe as possible for the forthcoming battle.

Youxue asked quietly, "She will kill us?"

Lingfeng nodded solemnly, "If she goes back on her word then it won't be possible for her to reach her state of divinity. The more powerful a celestial practitioner is, the more difficult it is for them not to honor their words. Moreover, if this is indeed her sanctuary, then we are all

intruders.”

Everyone was quiet.

It was because even in the martial fraternity, intruding on one’s sacred ground was an action that was punishable by death. It was the same thing for the celestial fraternity even if the celestials forbid killing.

The Ascension Goddess muttered coldly, “I thought that I am the most difficult to handle celestial in the Celestial Realm. But today, I have met someone even more difficult than I.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden trembled lightly as she resonated coldly with her Thousand Mile Resonant Skill, “I don’t understand. I don’t really understand. He is just a lowly celestial practitioner while the lot of you is the true celestials of the Celestial Realm. Yet, you are willingly to sacrifice your attainment for a lowly celestial practitioner. You do realize that once you have reached the top, it means that you are one step further to the Immortal Realm?”

Lie Qing resonated with her Thousand Mile Resonant Skill in return, “Unfortunately, I am also a lowly celestial practitioner and is away from the Immortal Realm by countless miles!”

Shen Xingyue resonated with her Thousand Mile Resonant Skill too, “I may be a true celestial practitioner but I am content to be with the man that I love. It doesn’t matter if he is a lowly celestial practitioner or not. If he is not around, I don’t want to live either. And this heart intricacy formula of the immortal practice doesn’t even matter to me!”

All the maidens nodded defiantly at the same time!

Shen Xingyue had voiced out their thoughts!

The Universal Old Man murmured with a soft sigh, “What is love that is so self-sacrificing? The immortal practice is so close but yet so far. But if I lose all my friends...”

He glanced at the Heaveness, “I wouldn’t have reached so far ahead today. If it is my destiny to die then so be it!”

Yi Ping had stepped forward weakly as he stood straight with the support of the Celestial Alice. He looked at the forbidding heavenly maiden while saying, "I do not know any Thousand Mile Resonant Skill nor do I have any martial strength to shout aloud. But I know that you can hear me clearly."

He paused quietly for just a while to cough weakly before saying, "We don't want to be here and we do not know why the Astronomic Stellar Formation has suddenly descended upon us. Maiden, if we have intruded upon your sanctuary, please forgives us and shows us a merciful way out!"

The forbidding heavenly maiden replied coldly, "You don't have to plead with me. I say I will kill you all at the count of a hundred and I will. Moreover, it is a heartless and unfaithful man like you!"

Yi Ping asked, "I am a heartless and unfaithful man?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coldly, "There are many men that are good in deceptions and uses their honeycomb words to trick gullible maidens into their arms. If you are a faithful man and a self-conscious man, then you only have a heart for one and should reject the rest."

Yi Ping could not disagree with her!

It was because he had always felt the same and harbored an extreme guilt towards all the maidens. It was because he did not know what to do anymore...

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coldly, "So you got nothing more to say anymore?"

Yixian stepped forward gracefully as she said gently. She held her gaze at the forbidding heavenly maiden and not once did she falter or shown any signs of hesitating as she said gently, "Firstly, I am not a gullible maiden. Secondly, I am a willing maiden. Thirdly, Ping'Er had saved my life too many times. Fourthly, Ping'Er is not a deceptive and a heartless man!"

All the maidens were nodding!

Lingfeng stole a glance at Yi Ping before saying, "He may be dense

sometimes but he is willing to give up his life for all of us!"

Lingfeng turned melancholy and she smiled sweetly to herself when she recalled how she had first Yi Ping and how he had sought her out at the Holy Amalgamate Mountains even though he was aware that almost the entire orthodox martial clans were attacking the Holy Hex Sect.

All the maidens nodded at the same time!

Lie Qing hummed coldly, "I always think that I am the most distrustful..."

She glanced at Yi Ping quietly and her voice was suddenly coarse, "... even after he had saved my life with the Divine Dragon Pill, I still could not bring myself to trust him. I am even denser than him..."

All the other maidens were pursing their lips as they reminisced the good times and bad times with Yi Ping as they looked at him with a thousand affections!

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coldly, "If I only take his life in exchange for the lives of all of you, will he still be willing?"

Yi Ping answered firmly with righteous fire in his eyes, "I am willing! All too willing! You...must...keep your promise!"

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked coldly at him before answering, "I didn't promise you anything. Did I say anything about promising anything to you?"

Yi Ping coughed out blood when he had heard that as he turned wobbly!

Immediately, all the maidens immediately crowded panicky around him, showing him with all kinds of concern!

Even the forbidding heavenly maiden was startled as evidenced by her expressive eyes when Yi Ping had suddenly coughed out blood but she quickly regained her icy composure before anyone had noticed her.

But she was soon as startled as everyone!

It was because the blood that Yi Ping had coughed out was golden instead of red in color!

Yunzi panicked asked, "Ping'Er is poisoned?!"

Yixian and Lingfeng quickly shook their head as they inspected Yi Ping's weak pulses while the Ascension Goddess said, "There is no sign of any poisoning. Ping'Er, you have to calm down and not fall into her deceptive provocations. You have just suffered a dangerous fit due to the raging emotions that have attacked your heart..."

The forbidding heavenly maiden gasped aloud and she was trembling, "The golden blood of the Kirin! You have actually dissolved the blood of the Kirin into your own and have survived?!"

Lingfeng gasped aloud while the Universal Old Man had a look of disbelief on his face!

According to the ancient lore of the Celestial Realm, anyone who had the blood of the Kirin was able to exhibit the might of the Kirin!

The Fire Kirin Divine Pill was one of the rarest divine pills in the Celestial Realm. It was said to be made from the heart of the Kirin. Originally, there was three such Fire Kirin Divine Pills that were concocted. But the Ancient Celestial that had concocted the Fire Kirin Divine Pills successfully, the Encompassing Sage was himself consumed by the madness of the Fire Kirin Divine Pill and had died.

His only protégé, the Mad Conqueror inherited the two remaining Fire Kirin Divine Pills. When he was fatally injured by his enemies, he decided to take a gambit by consuming one of the two Fire Kirin Divine Pills. He had not only survived the dangerous gambit but his martial strength had also improved tremendously. From that day onward, he was to be known as the Mad Conqueror and one of the seven most powerful celestials of their generation!

His current whereabouts were unknown and he was presumed to have perished in the Stellar Sanctuary. A majority of the Ancient Celestials had perished in either the Stellar Sanctuary or the Astronomic Stellar Formation. The surviving Fire Kirin Divine Pill was presumably lost and became a celestial treasure that was eagerly sought by the other celestials!

But how did Yi Ping come to possess the blood of the Kirin?

It was because when he had slashed at the Kirin, he had been splashed by the toxic blood of the Kirin. But because Yi Ping had once taken several Divine Dragon Pills, the Negative Core Divine Pill and the Thousand Year Old Icy Fish. Coupled with the balancing effect of his Absolute Equilibrium Force that was furthered refined by the Forget Affection Wine and with the aid of the Universal Force of the Celestial Alice, the positive deviation blood of the Kirin had no negative effect on Yi Ping other than the initial splashing searing pain.

Therefore Yi Ping had not only resisted the toxic blood of the Kirin, he had also absorbed the blood of the Kirin into his own without the madness and the toxic effects of the blood of the Kirin!

However, all these of course were not known to Lingfeng, the Universal Old Man and Yi Ping!

The Universal Old Man gasped, "Terrible! He has been afflicted by the madness of the Kirin!"

Lele gasped, "Ping'Er will go mad?"

Lingfeng nodded melancholy...

The Universal Old Man nodded solemnly, "When the madness overtakes him, he won't even remember any of you and he won't stop killing until everyone is dead regardless of foes or friends!"

Lie Qing immediately embraced Yi Ping as she murmured softly, "I don't care. I won't leave you..."

Even Yixian was cuddling gently besides Yi Ping as she said gently, "Ping'Er, I won't blame you if you have forgotten about me..."

Shen Xingyue hugged intimately as she muttered, "Ping'Er, it doesn't matter. Today may be our last battle already..."

All of a sudden, everyone was startled when the forbidding heavenly maiden had appeared in their midst out of the blue as she grabbed Yi Ping's wrist and examined his pulses!

She was extremely serene and was not fearful even though she had just come into their midst and had exposed herself to several fatal openings!

Everyone except Yi Ping was thinking immediately, "This is the best opportunity to strike her down...do we strike her now or not?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden heaved a soft sigh, "I don't understand...He is alright. He just needs a little rest..."

The forbidding heavenly maiden was absolute stunning and Yi Ping was flustering shyly, not daring to look at her directly. It was because he had suddenly noticed that her attire was simply too revealing, her skirt was really too short and he was staring directly at her bosoms!

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coolly as if she could hear everyone's hidden thoughts, "You must be thinking if this is the right time to seize the opportunity to attack me now that I am in your midst. If you can defeat me, then the secrets of the Immortal Practice await you inside."

Even though her counsel was soft and gentle but everyone except Lele was already trembling in her presence! This immediately revealed the differences in their martial level as manifested through their innate instinct!

The forbidding heavenly maiden taunted quietly, "If you don't try, how do you know you can't possibly win?"

Because Lele was the only one that had shown no fear and she was also very easily provoked, she immediately reacted by raising her fingers to stab her as she said. "So true! Then don't blame me for trying!"

Yixian panicky called out, "Lele, no!"

But it was already too late. Barely had Lele raised her fingers, the forbidding heavenly maiden had raised her fingers forward and struck Lele on her forehead with a tremendous hit!

That speed, power and reflexes of hers, was simply so astonishing that Lele fell onto the ground without any resistance!

At the same time, everyone was startled and was stunned!

Yi Ping was stunned as he shouted, “Lele!”

He immediately broke free of the forbidding heavenly maiden and raised his hand to slap her. To his astonishment, the forbidding heavenly maiden did not make any attempt to dodge his clumsy attack and she was given a tight slap on her face!

There was a bruise on her lovely porcelain face. As she turned to look at Yi Ping with watery eyes, her bruise disappeared just as quickly as it had appeared!

She asked melancholy, “You...slap me?”

Yi Ping said angrily, “Why shouldn’t I? You have just stolen the life of my wife! Do you know how important Lele is to me? If you are a superior immortal being, you can choose to exercise leniency. We may have intruded upon your sacred ground but do you have to be so callous in taking lives?”

Lingfeng quickly grabbed Yi Ping as she said in a low whisper, “Lele is alright...nothing has happened to her...”

Yi Ping was startled as he turned around to look at Lele who had just begun to regain consciousness as she moaned weakly.

Shen Xingyue was astonished as she examined Lele’s pulse, “It seems that your cosmos channels had been cleared by her! That will make your future attainment much easier!”

Lele moaned weakly as she looked at the forbidding heavenly maiden with stunned expressions, “You...you have actually sacrificed your precious internal strength to clear my cosmos accupoint...why?!”

Clearing the channels of another martial practitioner was a dangerous undertaking even by the most powerful martial practitioners and it was not something that even close associates would do for each other. It was because the success rate was not only low and whether the attempt was a success or not, the sacrificing cost to one’s internal strength was a permanent loss!

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coolly, “You are the first one that has the courage to exchange blow with me in ages. So let that be your reward. If you are still unwilling to concede defeat to me, you should better yourself first.”

While Lele was still bewildered, Yi Ping was stammering apologetically, “I...I am sorry...”

But the forbidding heavenly maiden seemed to ignore Yi Ping as she turned around quietly, “What are you all waiting for? Don’t you want to know the secrets of the Immortal Practice?”

Everyone looked at one another, not knowing what to say...

Yi Ping was already flustered with guilt but he took up the courage to say, “Maiden, forgive me for my action just now. We didn’t know that this is your sacred sanctuary. Now that we know, we won’t dare to intrude again. If you can guide us out of the Astronomic Stellar Formation, we will be extremely grateful!”

The Universal Old Man was startled as he secretly thought, “Alas! My ignorant protégé! The Immortal Practice is just inside. Surely we can just take a little peek. I will be content to have a quick look even if it means I will die in there...”

The Ascension Goddess was also secretly startled, “If the secret to the Stellar Sanctuary is in the Astronomic Stellar Formation and it is so difficult even to get into the center, surely it is worth just to take a look at what her sanctuary looks like...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked piercingly at Yi Ping, “You are not interested in the Immortal Practice?”

Yi Ping answered honestly, “Maybe in the future but not now!”

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked at everyone in the eyes, “The rest of you are also not interested in the Immortal Practice?”

Yunzi shook her head, “I will follow whatever decision Ping’Er chooses to make. Whether there is an Immortal Practice heart intricacy divine skill that is inside, I am not concerned.”

Yixian smiled gently, "The same goes for me as well!"

Everyone nodded as they exclaimed their wishes to abide by whatever Yi Ping had made!

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked at Yi Ping as she said unhurriedly, "Really? You are really not eager to know what is inside?"

She taunted again, "If you all attacked me at the same time, I may not be able to win. After all, my internal strength is now impaired."

Yi Ping replied, "I know my limits. If I am not wrong, then this Astronomic Stellar Formation is a test for the worthy. I cannot even defeat a single Kirin at the perimeter of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Goodness knows what trials and difficulties that are still waiting inside for us. I rather you let us leave quietly. When I am confident in the future, I will surely pay you a visit!"

He paused for a while before adding, "Even if we can defeat you, there are still two Golden Kirins on top waiting for us. We are destined to lose even before the fight has begun!"

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked at Yi Ping disquietly. She seemed to have many things to tell him but was also reluctant at the same time. She stole a glance at the Ascension Goddess and the Universal Old Man while saying, "You are honest but some of you may not be entirely honest."

Yi Ping asked, "Maiden, you will show us a way out?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden asked, "What do you think?"

Yi Ping was startled at her reply as he stammered, "I...do not know...why don't maiden tells me?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coldly, "You have slapped me so hard. Do you think that I will let the lot of you escape from the Astronomic Stellar Formation this easily? If you have not slapped me, maybe I will consider letting you off."

Yi Ping was stunned as he murmured, "Please forgive me...you can slap

me as many times as you want...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden answered coldly, “It is too late for regrets now. Some things once done cannot be undone.”

Yi Ping stammered, “I...”

Lingfeng tugged Yi Ping, “Ping’Er, save your breathe. No matter what you do, she will not let us leave!”

Yi Ping asked, “Lingfeng, what do you mean?”

Lingfeng said quietly and her alluring eyes were downcast, “Can’t you tell that she is the one that has deliberately visited the Astronomic Stellar Formation upon us?”

Everyone was gasping...

Yi Ping asked weakly, “Why?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden did not acknowledge anything. Instead, she had turned around quietly while saying coldly, “Follow me closely. Don’t blame me if you have lost sight of me or else my little dogs will think you are an unwanted visitor and shred you to pieces.”

She had actually called these huge and powerful Kirins as little dogs but everyone else was not amused...

As she ascended on the steps, Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man had an eye popping view of her back view. Immediately, Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man had a nose bled as they turned extremely flustered!

It was noticed by the rest of the maidens immediately.

Mei’Er was looking at the Universal Old Man, “Dirty old man, what are you looking at?”

Lele said unhappily to Yi Ping, “What are you so flustered?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “I...I...nothing...”

At the same time, the Heaveness Lingfeng was thinking secretly to herself. “Is she really the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos? That is impossible. That is because...”

Chapter 107: The Epicenter of the Astronomic Stellar Formation

All of a sudden, Yi Ping gasped aloud. “Lele, your forehead?!”

Everyone had noticed that there was a pink mark on her forehead!

Lele immediately unsheathed her Divine Echo as she looked at her reflection with a surprise gasp, “What is this?”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy immediately said with a trembling voice, “That is because Lele’s cosmos channel has been cleared. She has now broken through her Heavens Way accupoint, a hint that she is oneness with the heavens now. In short, she has now awakened her heaven eye and attained perennial perfection!”

Even the Ascension Goddess was startled, “Perennial perfection?!”

Yu’Er nodded slowly, “That is right. Only one-tenth of the practitioners that cleared their cosmos channel are able to attain perennial perfection as evidenced by a perennial mark on their forehead. This has to do more with luck than attainment itself.”

Lele was delighted as she laughed softly, “Really? I am so lucky...”

Lingfeng said quietly, “It is more than lucky. It is just freaking lucky. These sort of good things rarely happen to the lowly celestial practitioners! There is only one try and never a second chance. Therefore most celestial practitioners will rather wait until they are readied to clear their cosmos channel.”

The Universal Old Man added, “You must know that even for me, I am unable to open my heaven eyes even though my cosmos channel has already been cleared. The Heaveness is renowned for her Heaven Eyes Divine Skill in the past...”

He immediately kept quiet for he had suddenly realized that he had said the wrong things.

Lingfeng smiled gently, “That’s alright. I don’t mind.”

The Universal Old Man's expressions had suddenly become sorrowful. It was because even though Lingfeng could remember her past but unlike the Heaviness of old, she had not cleared her cosmos channel yet. Even if she were to clear her cosmos channel, there was also no guaranteed that she may awaken her heaven eyes. And without awakening her true heaven eyes, she was not able to fully utilize even a tenth of her Heaven Eyes Divine Skill!

The forbidding heavenly maiden turned around to hum coldly at them, "You better worry about following my pace first than engage in meaningless chat, if you value your life of course."

Yi Ping smiled weakly, "Yes, of course..."

When they had reached the top of the white celestium platform, the grandeur of the white monument palace became more apparent and they were all in awe but at the same time, they were also taken aback at the two gigantic Golden Kirins that were standing on top of the platform; the two gigantic Golden Kirins were much larger, twice as huge as the Kirin that they had encountered earlier and much more terrifying than they had been expecting!

But the two Golden Kirins did not move an inch and was surprising docile as the forbidding heavenly maiden stopped in their midst!

The white celestium platform was extremely broad. At the end of it was a gigantic golden gate that was engraved with white dragon and phoenix heraldries.

Yunzi said all of a sudden, "Did you all notice that we can no longer hear the vibrations of the earthquakes?"

Lingfeng nodded, "That is because we have reached the formation eye of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. The eye of the storm is always calm..."

The Universal Old Man stammered in awe, "This...this is the true center of Astronomic Stellar Formation? We are finally here?"

All of a sudden, the forbidding heavenly maiden had turned around as she reverberated softly, "Hmph...One hundred!"

She appraised everyone coldly, “Good, you have all reached here at the count of a hundred...”

It was obvious that she had delayed the count until they had all reached the top!

Yi Ping muttered with startled expression, “Thanks...”

But the forbidding heavenly maiden did not even look at him as she said coldly to everyone, “The next part won’t be easy. I can’t be held responsible if you cannot follow me tight...”

At this moment, Yi Ping thoughts were in a state of confusion. “Who is she? She is really an Immortal Being? Why did she stay her hand? What is she up to? Surely she is not oblivious to the divine swords that we are carrying? And she knows the name of the Celestial Alice...”

There were many unanswered questions that Yi Ping had wanted to ask her. Where was she taking them? Was she really the mover of the mysterious Astronomic Stellar Formation?

But the heaviest thing that had weighed his heart was that he should not have raised his hand against her. After all, she had not harmed Lele and she was probably also the one that had called the Kirin off...

Yi Ping sighed softly...

Yi Ping was not the only one who was baffled. All the other maidens were all looking at one another secretly as they hinted their anxieties with their eyes. It was because they dare not use the Great Whispering Skill or even discussed their reservations openly lest they gave the forbidding heavenly maiden a hold over them.

They were all thinking the same; when Lele had tried to attack her, she had retaliated instinctively. However when Yi Ping had raised his hand against her, she did not even move an inch of a finger and had allowed herself to be slapped by him!

Yunzi was thinking, “Something isn’t right here. I can’t place a finger yet but it seems that we are walking into a trap...”

Yu'Er was also silently thinking as she stole a glance at Mei'Er, "My Midheaven Epiphanies can't be wrong. If Mei'Er you can sense my thoughts, do you have the same feeling as me?"

Mei'Er nodded slowly but like Yu'Er, she dared not raised her suspicious. She could only ponder silently to herself, "Either something is very wrong with this place or her actions..."

Lingfeng was also quiet as she stole a glance at Yunzi, "Yunzi, among all the sisters you are the most intelligent. Can you tell me what is wrong? There is something amiss in this but I simply cannot pinpoint it. Am I overreacting? Or is she luring us to somewhere?"

She stole a glance at Yi Ping secretly. But when she caught sight of the Celestial Alice, she had suddenly turned ashen as she had a frightful thought. "The Celestial Alice! She did say that she is awakened by the Celestial Alice...No one except Yi Ping can carry the Celestial Alice... definitely not his enemies. Is she trying to lure and trick Yi Ping into taking the Celestial Alice to a place of her choosing?!"

But nevertheless, they were all forced to put their suspicious aside first. Even though some of them were already doubting if following her remained to be a correct choice but at the same time they did not want to lose sight of her; since she may be the only one that could show them a way out of the Astronomic Stellar Formation, they were forced to move quickly accordingly to her pace!

Therefore they began to follow the forbidding heavenly maiden through the golden gate and into the interior of the white monument palace.

Once inside, they were equally stunned for there were many towering white gold archways, hallways and stairways!

The hallways were so broad that even if their group were to stand an arm apart from each other, they would still be able to walk comfortably!

And the archways were so tall above that it was like the height of a city wall!

Yi Ping muttered, "This is...all too imposing...is there a need to build it

so exaggerating?”

Yunzi muttered as she looked at the archways in awe, “Maybe it is for those Kirins and not for us...”

There were three large hallways and the forbidding heavenly picked the one on the right as she walked quietly in front of them while everyone was looking at the interiors of the hallways in complete awe.

Lingfeng said quietly, “Don’t be deceived by the beautiful walls and the adornments. This place is exactly like the Stellar Sanctuary and is booty trapped. Don’t lose sight of her or else we will be trapped here forever.”

The Universal Old Man nodded solemnly, “If you notice, all the halls and passageways are all almost identical...”

Lie Qing drawn out her Perpetual Darkness as she slashed the white celestium walls of the passageway, “Easy. I just make a marking then we won’t be lost!”

The Universal Old Man was horrified as he shouted panicky, “No wait!”

All of a sudden, there was a sudden reverberating and the entire hallway was shaking violently!

Lie Qing was startled, “What is this? Did I do something wrong?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden had turned around as she said coldly, “Nothing. You have just triggered a minor defense formation that is in place here. That is just the shifting of the hallways. I have disabled the traps earlier or else the consequences will be much more serious than this.”

She had suddenly backtracked to the other hallway while talking.

It seemed that the original route that she was taking them was now inaccessible.

The Universal Old Man heaved a sigh of relief as he muttered, “That is close. I thought that we are a goner.”

Lie Qing was flustered while YI Ping said gently to her, “That is alright. I would have done the same too.”

Lie Qing cuddled next to Yi Ping, comforted by his words.

Lingfeng interrupted with a sense of urgency, "Don't lose sight of her and be on your alert."

Everyone nodded.

Time passed and after dozens of winding turns that lasted two hours, they came to a large white stairway that had a thousand steps.

Immediately Yi Ping sighed softly at the steps as he muttered, "Not another stairs..."

Even Youxue, Mei'Er, Lie Qing and Lele were muttering tiredly too!

Earlier when they had finished climbing the ten thousands steps, all of them were already near to exhaustion and there was now one thousand additional similar steps!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy muttered, "Now I think that the Divine Calamity is much easier than this..."

Shen Xingyue who had been supporting Yi Ping and Yunzi through the climb nearly fainted at the sight of the stairs as she cursed softly, "This is killing me..."

The Ascension Goddess who had been suppressing her fatigue through her stubbornness and because she thought herself as a superior celestial practitioner went wobbly at the sight of the stairs, "This...not again..."

The Universal Old Man asked, "Do we have to climb this stairs? Surely, there is another way? I don't mind a longer route..."

The forbidding heavenly maiden had already walked to the middle of the stairs turned around to say coldly, "The Immortal Practice is on top of the stairs. Do you want to take a look?"

Immediately the Universal Old Man said, "I used to train doing jumping squats on steep mountain steps several times a day. This...this is nothing to me!"

Lingfeng muttered sarcastically, "Oh? May I know when that was?"

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, "It is only a mere thousand steps. Let's go!"

Barely had she said that, Lele had made five startling hops forward and she was besides the forbidding heavenly maiden in an instant!

It seemed that after Lele had unlocked her heaven eyes, her martial level had also increased tremendously and now her swiftness movement speed was on the same level as Shen Xingyue!

She halted the forbidding heavenly maiden as she laughed softly, "What's the hurry? It does seem that the ones who are supposed to be in a hurry are us and not you, am I right? Right now, you are only a stranger to us. Why should we follow a stranger?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked coldly at Lele as she said icily, "You don't fear me? Do you know that I can kill you as easily as I can crush an ant?"

There was a strong killing malevolent air in her eyes and everyone was immediately startled. Yi Ping was panicky as he struggled with all his strength forward!

Yu'Er and Mei'Er immediately said, "Let me help you..."

Shen Xingyue and Yixian who had the best swiftness movement skill in their group had immediately displayed the last reserves of their strength as they flew alarmingly besides Lele.

Yixian took a deep breath before saying gently to Lele, "Sister, wait...stay cool..."

The forbidding heavenly maiden noticed that Lele had completely shown no fear of her and she was secretly startled. She thought, "She is just a crimson eye celestial practitioner and yet she does not fear me?"

Lele smiled gently, "Will my own protégé mistress kill me?"

The forbidden heavenly maiden raised her thin eyebrows as she said coldly, "Who says I am your protégé mistress?"

Lele smiled lively as her eyes lit delightfully, "There is a saying; the

master is the one imparting while the receiver is the protégé. A day of tutelage is a debt that is forever. You have sacrificed your internal strength to clear my cosmos channel. So how can you say that you are not my protégé mistress?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden was startled and her malevolent air disappeared.

She took a quick look at Yi Ping but it was immediately noticed by everyone. Why did she look at Yi Ping for?

She quickly turned to say coldly at Lele, “I have my own reasons for doing so but you are not going to find out why.”

Lele was not deterred, “Then I shall wait for you to tell me...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden turned around as she walked up the stairs. “Up to you. “

But this time, she had deliberately slowed down to a normal pace and was no longer as hurried as before.

Lele gasped hurriedly after her, “You haven’t told me your name yet!”

The Universal Old Man looked up as he said solemnly, “That should be the way already...”

Lingfeng kicked the Universal Old Man nastily on his foot as she said, “Stop looking at places where you shouldn’t see.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden appeared to have heard it and she was discreetly placing her hands behind...

It was not before long that they had reached the top of the white celestial steps and a massive platform greeted them. And in the epicenter of the platform was an enormous black stele with white engraving on it!

The heart intricacy formula of the Immortal Practice!

That was the first thing that had come into the minds of everyone!

The forbidding heavenly maiden confirmed their thoughts as she said coldly, “This is the wordings of the Immortal Practice. It is all engraved

on the black stele.”

Everyone except Yi Ping and Lingfeng began to move nervously forward to the black stele for a closer look.

The forbidding heavenly maiden turned to ask Yi Ping and Lingfeng, “You are not interested in the Immortal Practice?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “I can’t read.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden was genuinely startled as her eyes widened in surprise, “What...you...can’t read...”

Yi Ping was flustered but he answered, “I...yes...no...I just know a few common words.”

All of a sudden Lingfeng interrupted hurriedly. “Wait everyone! Don’t be hasty first.”

The Universal Old Man asked, “My Heaveness, what is the matter?”

He was suppressing his excitement and was all too eager to read the wordings on the enormous black stele!

Lingfeng looked at the forbidding heavenly maiden as she questioned icily, “Just who are you? You are not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. You are just an imposter!”

The Universal Old Man asked curiously, “If she is not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos, would she be able to lead us to the epicenter of the Astronomic Stellar Formation? Would she be able to show us the intricate heart formula of the Immortal Practice? It is just...right in front of our eyes!”

The rest of the maidens and even Yi Ping were startled as they began to ponder as well. It was because the Heaveness Lingfeng was not one who would easily jump to conclusions.

Yunzi, Yu’Er and Mei’Er immediately looked at each other! Perhaps Lingfeng already knew something that they had not known!

The forbidding heavenly maiden started to arrange her black translucent robe elegantly as she gazed at everyone with her golden eyes

before she said unhurriedly, “If I am not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos, then who I am?”

Lingfeng said icily, “If you are the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos, then you must have known about the Cosmos Stellar Formation, am I right?”

The Cosmos Stellar Formation was the celestial formation that had allowed them to ascend to the Celestial Realm and was also the formation that allowed them to descend to the lower realm. It was left behind by the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos in the upper levels of the Stellar Sanctuary and by a stroke of luck, was discovered by the Heavenness.

The forbidding heavenly maiden hesitated for a while before she said coldly, “Surely.”

All of a sudden, the Universal Old Man had an odd expression on his face. Now he understood what the Heavenness was trying to remind him!

He said angrily, “You are not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos! You... you...actually lie to us! Just who are you?”

Lingfeng added icily, “Sure, the Cosmos Stellar Formation is able to transmigrate anyone to the lower realm. But the criteria to do so are extremely stringent. In order to descend to a lower realm, someone must be able to ascend at the same time too. However...”

She looked at everyone and immediately everyone was gasping; they knew the crux of the question now!

Lingfeng continued coldly, “However, none has ever ascended to the Gods’ Realm since our time. If that happens, there will be signs in the heavens. If no one has ever ascended, then it is impossible for the Cosmos Stellar Formation to work.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden replied coldly, “Does it matter who I am? After all, the Immortal Practice is what you sought.”

Lingfeng replied equally coldly, “If you are not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos, then we can’t be sure if the inscriptions on the stele are the real Immortal Practice too.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden hummed coldly.

Lingfeng continued, “Your real aim is the Celestial Alice, am I right? You have deliberately lure Yi Ping here, not out of benevolent but for your own malevolent purposes? You know very well Yi Ping is the only one that can awaken the Celestial Alice into the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden sighed softly, “That is right. If he is dead, then the Celestial Alice will not be whole anymore and will be useless to me. I have really underestimated you. What is your name?”

Lingfeng hummed coldly.

The forbidding heavenly maiden beamed with her eyes, “Don’t misunderstand me. I don’t intend to become friends with you. But your name will be something that I may remember when I am bored...”

The Universal Old Man was muttering, “This isn’t supposed to be happening...”

Lingfeng asked the forbidding heavenly maiden, “You...you are a Dark Celestial?”

Chapter 108: The Three Known Realms

The atmosphere had suddenly become very tense.

Yi Ping's group was all looking at the forbidding heavenly maiden in stunned silence. It was because they had never expected her to admit so readily that she was after the Celestial Alice and had lured Yi Ping to the epicenter of the Astronomic Stellar Formation!

After a close fight with a rampaging Kirin, climbing an imposing ten thousand steps up the mountain, traveling at a rapid pace through the confusing passageways of the white monument palace for two hours and another thousand steep steps; the entire group was both physically exhausted and mentally stress while the forbidding heavenly maiden was still as invigorate as ever!

Whatever advantages they had previously was gone now!

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly for his strength was spent and he was struggling to stand straight...

The Universal Old Man and all the maidens immediately readied a defensive stance as they confronted the forbidding heavenly maiden apprehensively.

The forbidding heavenly maiden said icily, "Just because I have hinted that I have the slumber sickness, you suppose that I am a Dark Celestial?"

Lingfeng said coldly, "So, are you? At this point of time, you should savor this moment of victory and delight in telling us who you really are, for being stupid enough to fall into your well planned ruse."

That was a taunt and was an effective taunt against most; praising the opponent and playing on their pride while being contemptuous on own self!

Everyone hopes were now with just a few players; Yu'Er, Mei'Er, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lele, Lie Qing and the Universal Old Man!

Among the six of them, only the Universal Old Man and Lie Qing were

the strongest exponents.

Lie Qing smiled coldly and her eyes were beaming. She had been spoiling for a fight for some time. She exercised her martial power as nine hovering blue wisps exploded into sight and at the same time, she had raised her Perpetual Darkness, “You may find us a little bit hard to swallow and so please don’t choke!”

The forbidding heavenly maiden raised her thin eyebrows as she hummed coldly, “The Invincible Divine Force. I have heard that there are five major staging to this skill; the Virtuous Level, the Pious Level, the Righteous Level, the Holiness Level and the Divine Level. The Holiness Level and the Divine Level are almost mythical levels and you have actually reached the Holiness Level. No wonder you aren’t afraid. Moreover, judging by the ease that you can execute the Invincible Divine Force so effortless, your Holiness Level should be in the middle tier. I supposed that you can display between tenth and eleventh of these hovering blue spheres. So, am I supposed to be afraid or praise you?”

Yi Ping was startled and so were the rest. That was because they had never seen Lie Qing displaying more than nine of the hovering wisps before!

Lie Qing winked at Yi Ping while stroking her hair; she was hinting him that he may not necessary be her match even when he had fully recovered. Yi Ping had been persistent in challenging her seventh intricate level of the Invincible Divine Force. And he had thought that he could now overcome her eighth and even ninth level of her Invincible Divine Force when he had fully recovered!

At the same time, Lele muttered. “My good protégé mistress...good sister...surely not?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden walked past everyone quietly to the enormous monument black stele that was in the middle of the platform as she muttered softly, “Come.”

No one stopped her and as though they were drawn by her commands, they walked slowly towards her direction. It was because they knew that

they were now at her mercies. This was her territory. What else could they do except to wait until she had laid out her diabolic plans to them?

The Universal Old Man was staring at the black stele and not so much on the forbidding heavenly maiden now that he could see the inscriptions of the black stele in close proximity.

The inscriptions of the black stele were tidy, starting from the top right in vertical lines. The writing was the Celestial Alp, the only known celestial alphabet. There were few celestial practitioners that were able to decipher it. It was rarely seen in the Celestial Realm except in the Stellar Sanctuary.

Even the Universal Old Man could not read all the runic characters. He had often depended on the Heaveness to decipher the celestial inscriptions that they had found together. So he stole a glance at her now but to his disappointment, the Heaveness was having a face-off with the forbidding heavenly maiden and her entire focus was on her!

But his attention soon turned immediately back to the black stele again and he had even forgotten why he was looking for the Heaveness in the first place!

Youxue, Lele, Yunzi, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Ascension Goddess were all smiling bitterly at the inscriptions of the black stele; they could not decipher any of the characters but they were still staring mesmerizing at the black stele and secretly hoping that they may find some clues to decipher it!

The Ascension Goddess was cursing silently, "This is the ultimate secret of the Astronomic Stellar Formation and yet I am unable to read any of the inscriptions except for a few words...this word and that word; what is the link?"

Of the remaining maidens, Only Yixian, Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng were uninterested in the black stele. It was because they knew that a strong opponent awaited them. Even if the Immortal Practice awaited them, what good would it be if they were killed?

Yi Ping was completely uninterested in the Immortal Practice. He was

only concerned with the safety of everyone and even though he could no longer fight, his righteous air was extremely imposing and that spoke volumes of his innermost feelings!

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked at everyone one by one, lingering at Yi Ping more than the others. Finally she touched the edge of the enormous monument black stele gently as she said, “Good! Just the five of you are remaining now.”

Yi Ping was baffled as he asked, “There are thirteen of us here. Why do you say there are five of us here?”

All of a sudden, Yixian gasped. “Ping’Er, the others...”

Lingfeng, Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing were also gasping at the same time. It was because they had suddenly noticed that the rest of the group was all staring mesmerizingly at the black stele without any expressions!

Yi Ping had noticed it too. He quickly shook Lele as he called her name, “Lele! You can hear me?” But Lele was totally oblivious to him!

He called out to the rest, “Protégé master! Yu’Er! Mei’Er! Yunzi! Youxue! Shi Shi! Ye Yin! Can any one of you hear me?!”

The forbidding heavenly maiden said quietly as she moved her finger gently from top to bottom of the enormous black stele, “You don’t have to worry for them. They will be alright. At this moment, they are grasping the heart intricacies of the Immortal Practice. Whether they can truly decipher the true meanings of the Immortal Practice depends on their destiny.”

Lingfeng asked, “The inscriptions on the black stele are really the Immortal Practice?”

The forbiddingly heavenly maiden smiled wryly, “Not really.”

Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue, Yixian, Lingfeng and Lie Qing were startled!

The forbidding heavenly maiden explained, “The inscriptions on the black stele are actually the history of the three known realms. However, within this stele are also all the alphabets of the celestial script in an

intricate arrangement. Each of the character is only used once. And on this black stele, there are several celestial formations that are on it. That is why they are mesmerized by it. However, if they have the sufficient enlightenment, they may be able to free themselves from it and gain some useful knowledge that may further their own celestial practice.”

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly. He was only interested to know if everyone was going to be safe. For the very first time, he had actually wished that he was the White Sage who was one of the most enlightened sages ever so that he could understand what was going on.

So he asked a stupid question to the forbidding heavenly maiden, “You... are you a good guy or a bad guy? Why did you bring us here? I really don’t believe that the Immortal Practice will be so readily available and so accessible without any hard work.”

Lingfeng, Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue and Yixian were all looking at each other with a stunned expression! It was because even though Yi Ping’s questions were crude and even dumb, it was also the most direct! Without hard work and practice, there were simply no shortcuts! And Yi Ping had just reminded them of that!

To Yi Ping’s astonishment, the forbidding heavenly maiden had actually nodded at him with a smile, “That is right. Without hard work and self-awakening, it is impossible to start even on the Immortal Practice. Your level of enlightenment is really impressive. In fact, I have never known anyone that is like you before.”

She had actually praised Yi Ping with a smile!

Immediately Yi Ping was flustered as he noticed her smiles and he was feeling awkward.

Shen Xingyue muttered softly, “For someone that is sleeping for a long time, what a thing to say.”

Yi Ping began to stammer, “Can you...tell us who you really are? And also free all of us?”

To his startled astonishment and everyone else, the forbidding heavenly

maiden nodded at him. "I will, if you say so."

Yi Ping gasped, "Really?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden nodded as she said, "But first, let me tell you something that you should be interested to know or else it will be a wasted trip, am I right?"

Lingfeng folded her arms as she laughed alluringly, "Well, if you insist."

Yixian nodded gently while Shen Xingyue said, "I am all ears."

Lie Qing dispelled her Invincible Divine Force as an indication that she was also willing to listen.

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked at the imposing black stele monument as she sighed softly, "There are three realms of existence; the Mortal Realm, the Celestial Realm and the Immortal Realm. This, as you are all aware is the Celestial Realm. It is so vast that it is almost like an endless sea of mountains. However it is not an infinite realm. There are in fact, a total of nine such realms that are interconnected around it. When a celestial practitioner transmigrates from the Mortal Realm, they always appear somewhere in the center of the Celestial Realm."

Lingfeng asked, "Is that why the Celestial Realm is also called the Ninth Heavens?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden nodded slowly, "So you know. That's right. The first heaven is the realm that you are in. Beyond the first heaven is the great wilderness where few celestial practitioners dare to venture, if they can survive the trip of course."

Lingfeng was silent. Even though she was an Ancient Celestial and had spent a long time in the Celestial Realm, she had never been to the furthest edge of the first heaven of the Celestial Realm. Therefore, she had never really known about the existence of the Second Heaven. Most of the celestial practitioners that had chosen to remain at the furthest end of the Celestial Realm were the Autonomous Celestials; they had chosen to be out of the way of the major celestial clans to continue their own cultivation or for their own self-preservation.

In the past, the first heaven of the Celestial Realm was a much more dangerous place than it was now with many powerful beasts. But the Ancient Celestials had battled fiercely against them and with the arrival of more of the Exalted Celestials, they had gained a foothold in the safe areas of the Celestial Realm. As for the perimeters of the Celestial Realm, few celestials were bothered with it for they knew that death only awaited the foolish...

The forbidding heavenly maiden pointed at the enormous black stele as she said, "This black stele describes exactly the origins of the three known realm."

The forbidding heavenly maiden sighed softly, "Mortals are ordained to die unless they are able to attain enlightenment. The Celestial Realm is a testing ground for the celestial practitioners and dark celestial practitioners before they can finally ascend to the upper realm which we call the Immortal Realm."

Yi Ping asked curiously, "Even the dark celestial practitioners have a chance to enter the Immortal Realm?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden replied casually, "The virtue of Heaven is for all life to thrive. All the celestial practitioners must cultivate their virtuous self in order to be oneness with the Heaven and therefore they can be eternal. The dark celestial practitioners may be evil in mortal eyes but a compassionate Heaven will always give them a chance to repent. What is good, what is evil? Just like righteous celestial practitioners may turn to evil anytime, dark celestial practitioners may truly seek penitence."

Yi Ping immediately thought of Lele and the Celestial Liege. Lele was a dark celestial practitioner by circumstances rather than choice and there were many like her. However she was lucky enough to return to the enlightened path. The Celestial Liege realized the follies of his ways and to this day, continued to seek repentances and a way to attain true enlightenment.

At the same time, Shen Xingyue was reminded of the Divine Descendant

that had forced many of the celestial practitioners to fight among themselves.

The forbidding heavenly maiden continued nonchalantly, “To cultivate the self is just a doorway to know the Heaven. Only by respecting Heaven and by embarking on a path of loving righteousness to all, can a mortal reaches the highest pinnacle of divinity. It doesn’t matter if they are mortals or celestial practitioners.”

She waved her hand and there was a fierce righteous fire in her eyes!

Yi Ping and everyone were startled at her transformation!

The forbidding heavenly maiden continued melancholy, “Mortals should follow the way of the Heaven and learn the virtue of the Heaven. Heaven is always truthful, never deceitful, always fair and righteous. The expansive virtuous spirit of Heaven sundered throughout the three realms. Mortals should humble themselves with true sincerity to commune with the Heaven.”

All of a sudden, she seemed to be looking melancholy at Yi Ping while saying, “The humble ones will be gifted with the virtues of Heaven while the sincere ones will be gifted with the virtues of enlightenment. To be humble and know the virtues of Heaven, mortals therefore must be sincere and truthful, knowing right and wrong and be filled with the expansive air of righteousness; only then can they be one with the virtues of Heaven and be oneness with the heavens and the earth.”

She paused for a while before saying casually, “When that happens, they too will be serene, peaceful and be eternal just as the Heaven is always eternal.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden walked quietly next to Lingfeng and whispered softly, “You are supposed to be eternal and have unwittingly become an eternal already. If you have decided to stay in the lower realm, you will be untouched by the divine tribulations. Why have you decided to come here and begin your heavenly tribulations once again?”

Lingfeng gasped, “You know?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden said coolly, "Each has their own destiny. No one is able to help the others to reach enlightenment. What a pity."

Yi Ping was alarmed when he had heard it so he asked, "Lingfeng, what is going on? What does she means?"

Lingfeng's eyes were melancholy but she soon smile alluringly to Yi Ping, "Nothing important."

She added hastily, "Maybe she is referring to my Heaviness old self."

Shen Xingyue, Yixian and Lie Qing kept quiet...

The forbidding heavenly maiden was quiet as she appraised Lingfeng silently.

However, Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue, Yixian and Lie Qing were unconvinced that Lingfeng was telling the truth but as they did not have the same state of enlightenment as Lingfeng, they could not point a finger to what was missing. It was because they could all see from Lingfeng's eyes that she was hiding something from them and not so much of what she had said to them!

Lingfeng immediately regained her composure as she asked the forbidding heavenly maiden, "Just who are you? And what do you want?"

Yi Ping was startled. He had almost forgotten about it!

Shen Xingyue asked as well, "Surely you did not ask us here to listen to this?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden looked up as though she was viewing the heavens, "Who am I? Only he knows. Who is he? He is the first that is able to ascend to the upper realm. He knows that the majority of the celestials here are not interested in pursuing further enlightenment given their long life span and can't be bothered to venture beyond the first heavens. He also knows that unless an action is taken, sooner or later Heaven will reduce their life spans just as the mortals have their life spans reduced due to wickedness. Therefore, he creates the Stellar Sanctuary to aid the celestials to ascend and to avert Heaven's wrath."

Her eyes were melancholy, “He...gives up his immortal life to do the impossible. Such an action is against the laws of the Heaven but he believes that is the right thing to do. He has paid for that price with his immortal life...”

Shen Xingyue muttered, “The Stellar Sanctuary is also responsible for the deaths of thousands of celestials. To save the celestial practitioners, so many others must also die at the same time. What an irony.”

The forbidding heavenly maiden answered, “It is for the greater good. Do you think that these celestial practitioners will be content with just their cultivations and won’t try to dominate over the weaker celestial practitioners? If the more powerful celestial practitioners are not killed, will the weaker celestial practitioners thrive? In that sense, that is the reason why time runs much slower in the middle realm than the lower realm. It is to give the younger generations an opportunity to cultivate at an unhurried pace in the lower realm and not subjected to the mercies of the celestials of the Celestial Realm when they have finally ascended successfully.”

Shen Xingyue was quiet...

Lingfeng asked of a sudden, “Who is he? He is the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?”

The forbidding heavenly maiden hummed coldly, “Who is the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos compared to him? The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos is nothing and is just another challenger trying to overcome the challenges of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Yi Ping said unhappily, “No matter. You should be respectful to others. After all, he is an enlightened celestial practitioner...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden smiled. Her smiles were extremely stunning and Yi Ping was suddenly flustered as he tried to avert his eyes from her.

She smiled enchantingly as she looked intently at Yi Ping. “Thank you for saying such kind words to me but I don’t deserve it.”

Yi Ping was startled as he stammered, "What do you mean?"

Even Lingfeng was startled as she asked, "You are really the Dark lord of the Chaos Cosmos?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden nodded, "That is right. But that is just a name that I have used in the Stellar Sanctuary and not my real name. That is also not my real celestial name either."

Lingfeng asked quietly, "So why are you here? Aren't you supposed to be in the Immortal Realm now?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden sighed softly, "I am just a different challenger than the others."

Lingfeng was startled, "What do you mean?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden said melancholy, "I am the first challenger. Maybe that is why you have thought that I am the one that have created the Stellar Sanctuary. He is also the one that has creates the Stellar Astronomic Formation as my sanctuary."

Lingfeng muttered, "For him to do this for you, then the both of you must be very close."

The forbidding heavenly maiden began to smile bitterly, "You really think so?"

Lie Qing who had been keeping quiet all this while, was secretly startled. It was because she had noticed the unusual body gestures of this forbidding heavenly maiden. Her instincts immediately warned her that she was only telling half-truths but because she lacked evidences, she dared not speak her mind.

She was the only person that had noticed it because she was a good liar herself. But in order to lie well, she had to perfect her acting skills. However in her eyes, this forbidding heavenly maiden was a terrible poor liar; she could still manage to fool the others but not her.

The forbidding heavenly maiden was suddenly sorrowful, "Regardless. That is all in the past. During my last undertaking into the Stellar

Sanctuary, I have discovered that the Universal Force is required to open the ninety level of the sanctuary. Therefore after researching for a long time, I have managed to create the Cosmos Stellar Formation to take me to the lower realm. Finally I have found the Celestial Alice. Unfortunately, I have failed to harmonize with it...”

She heaved a soft sigh as she looked at Yi Ping, “I am the one that have placed the Celestial Alice in the Stellar Sanctuary. I have placed a seal on it to alert me when someone else has managed to divine harmonize with the Celestial Alice. In the meantime, I will slumber until that day comes.”

Lingfeng said curiously, “I don’t understand. Since you have discovered a way back to the lower realm, why don’t you stay down there and reign supreme?”

Shen Xingyue said, “That’s right. You don’t have to return to the Celestial Realm anymore!”

The forbidding heavenly maiden said nonchalantly, “While I am in the Astronomic Stellar Formation, I cannot be touched by any heavenly tribulations. Therefore, I can be considered an immortal being here. Moreover, my ultimate aim is to reach the upper realm and be oneness with the Heaven. What joy is there to become a supreme being of the lower realm when you can become a supreme being of the three known realms?”

Yi Ping nodded as he muttered, “That is right. True, true...”

The forbidding heavenly maiden took out a pouch and casually tossed it to Lingfeng, “This is the Golden Kirin Heart Stone.”

Lingfeng was startled as she looked at the inside of the pouch with excitement!

Shen Xingyue, Yi Ping, Yixian and Lie Qing were also curious what was inside.

When the pouch was opened and Yi Ping took a sniff of the golden stone, he had immediately thought of the Negative Core Divine Pill that he had swallowed!

Shen Xingyue gasped immediately, "This is..."

Yixian and Lie Qing exchanged curious looks with each other...

The forbidding heavenly maiden said, "There are enough of the Golden Kirin Heart Stone to make one Negative Core Divine Pill for all of you. Beware and do not take more than two doses of the Negative Core Divine Pill or else it is surely fatal. The Negative Core Divine Pill is able to save your life and advance your martial advancement at the same time. Make the full use of it."

Lingfeng was stunned. The Negative Core Divine Pill was one of the most sought divine pills that could only be found within the Stellar Sanctuary and yet this forbidding heavenly maiden had simply tossed them a great quantity of it as though it meant nothing to her!

The forbidding heavenly maiden turned to Yi Ping to ask, "I have heard them calling you Yi Ping. That is your name?"

Yi Ping replied, "That is right. That is my name."

The forbidding heavenly maiden smiled, "Do you see that white gemstone that is inlaid at the walls at the end over there?"

Yi Ping strained his eyes for a while before he finally said, "I see it now."

The forbidding heavenly maiden nodded, "Good! Now I need a favor from you in return. I need you to use the Celestial Alice and to destroy that white gemstone for me. Only you are able to do it. That is because only the Universal Force that is contained within the Celestial Alice is able to destroy that white gemstone."

Yi Ping was startled, "You want me to destroy that gemstone? It is not that I won't do it but it looks extremely precious to me. Why do you want to destroy it? Isn't this supposed to be your sanctuary?"

The forbidding heavenly maiden pleaded quietly, "Surely by now, you should know that I have harbored no ill-intentions towards you? If I tell you that I wish to keep the reasons a secret, will you still be willing to do it?"

Yi Ping nodded as he assured her, "You have already told us so much and gives us something so precious. As long as you are willing to let us off and assure the safety of everyone, I will only be most willing to help you!"

The forbidding heavenly maiden nodded gently, "I...I am most willing..."

As he had said along, he had walked towards the white gemstone that was laid on the perimeter of this platform!

The forbidding heavenly maiden smiled at him while walking quietly behind him...

Lie Qing broke into a cold sweat all of a sudden. She had no words for it but somehow, she had sensed something was amiss!

Even Lingfeng, Shen Xingyue and Yixian seemed to be looking uneasily as all the maidens began to follow quietly behind them!

They were all asking themselves secretly, "What is that white gemstone? Why did it require the Universal Force to destroy it?"

Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue were not newly celestial practitioners. They knew very well that precious gems and heavenly relics were used as formation eyes. Destroying the formation eyes would mean the destroying the entire formation at the same time too!

The questions were, was she trying to destroy the Astronomically Stellar Formation or some other formations?

Their thoughts were soon interrupted by Yi Ping who had yelled aloud as he mustered his remaining feeble strength, wielding the Celestial Antonym Alice and Celestial Synonym Alice as he hacked across the white inlaid gemstone with a tremendous force!

As the gemstone shattered, several tremendous shockwaves burst out thunderously. It was so violent that the entire white celestium platform was breaking apart and was shaking violently!

At the same time, the Universal Old Man, Lele, Yunzi, Youxue, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, the Ascension Goddess, Yu'Er and Mei'Er were freed from their trance as they were knocked to the ground by the violent

shockwaves!

The forbidding heavenly maiden quickly got hold of Yi Ping and pushed him away in the direction of Lingfeng, Shen Xingyue, Yixian and Lie Qing as she muttered inaudibly to herself while coughing out blood at the same time. "Sorry...I broke my promise to you...but I can finally join you now..."

As she stumbled onto the ground, she was muttering. "My celestial name is the Celestial Alice..."

All of a sudden, the ground beneath her had collapsed and a dark abyss had appeared!

As she dropped into the dark abyss, a strong hand had grabbed her right wrist!

She opened her eyes and was startled to see that it was Yi Ping who had grabbed her wrist!

Yi Ping was as white as sheet as he lay flatly at the edge of the collapsed platform!

She protested weakly, "Let go of me...or you will surely be pulled into the dark abyss...this is my heavenly tribulations..."

This dark abyss that had suddenly appeared was no ordinary hole. It was like a black hole that was sucking everything into it!

Even though Yi Ping was trembling nonstop, his grip was firm as he muttered weakly. "I refuse..."

The forbidding heavenly maiden gave a gently smile as she said, "You...silly..."

In that instant, their eyes were seemed to be locked together. A weird and wondrous feeling had suddenly formed between them...

But all of a sudden, she had raised her martial force with her left hand and had sent Yi Ping flying backward with a tremendous force. But at the same time, she had fallen into the abyss!

Chapter 109: The Heavenly Wraths

Yi Ping was standing in the forest and he was looking idiocy.

Yi Ping's expressions were sorrowful. He stared blankly at the beaming reflection of the Celestial Alice. Whenever he had looked at the Celestial Alice, the haunting image of the forbidding heavenly maiden was always there. He had blamed himself for her demise.

He had just offered a joss of aromatic incense to the memories of the forbidding heavenly maiden that he had met in the Astronomic Stellar Formation.

Behind him were all his consorts; Yunzi, Youxue, Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Shi Shi and Ye Yin.

Only the Heaviness Lingfeng was not around and so was the Universal Old Man.

It was because days after the collapse of the Astronomic Stellar Formation, Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man had taken leave all of a sudden to retrieve some of their valuable possessions that they had kept in secret locations around the Celestial Realm. It was because the place that they were going to next was to be their toughest battle ever!

Lingfeng made him promise to wait for her and she would definitely be back within three months!

Yi Ping had often blamed himself, "If I have not destroyed the white gemstone...if I did not lose my strength...she would not have died..."

And he did not even know her name...

In the end, it seemed that the forbidding heavenly maiden had lured them to the epicenter of the Astronomic Stellar Formation not so much as to take away their lives. She was in fact, trying to take away her own life instead!

Yi Ping muttered, "Why..."

All the other maidens were also quiet.

The forbidding heavenly maiden had actually given them the Immortal Practice. It was something that they had all known long ago but had forgotten. The black stele reconfirmed and had shown them the true celestial path that they must do in order to gain true enlightenment...

Three months since the event in the Astronomic Stellar Formation had passed. They had all managed to escape from the collapsing Astronomic Stellar Formation but it was not without any fatal accidentals.

They had almost lost their lives when the Astronomic Stellar Formation had begun to collapse. Was that the reason why the forbidding heavenly maiden had given them the Negative Core Divine Pills? Was it because she had predicted this outcome?

Without the Negative Core Divine Pills, they would have really lost their lives!

They had thought that they were safe once they could escape outside. But to their utter surprise, a far more dangerous crisis was waiting for them!

The collapsed of the Astronomic Stellar Formation produced another unexpected outcome. The resulting collapsed field of the Astronomic Stellar Formation generated a force that was as powerful as the Divine Calamity of the Crisis Level; an event that could destroy the celestial practitioners and turned them to dust if they fail to overcome it!

For those that had not reached the Ascend Level, if they could pull through then it would clear the path for them to become a True Celestial!

It was an event that could not be forced and depended entirely on the providence of Heaven to occur. It was also an event that required most practicing celestials hundreds of years to prepare and at which only a third could survive!

In short, it was a dangerous calamity that would befall the celestial practitioners!

But it was also an event and a gambit that was welcomed by the celestial practitioners in order to ascend!

If the practicing celestials pulled through, then their eyes would turn to gray and when they reached the Ascend Level, their eyes would turn golden!

It had taken Shen Xingyue a thousand years of preparation before she would chance upon the Divine Calamity of the Crisis Level and barely overcoming it.

Any Divine Calamities were not easy to overcome, requiring the full mental and physical preparation of the practitioners. Even Golden Celestials that had cleared their earlier Divine Calamities in the past were dreadful of it.

Moreover, none of them had any preparation at all. It was especially so for the grief-stricken Yi Ping. He was reluctant to leave the collapsing epicenter and wanted to save the forbidding heavenly maiden. In the end, the Universal Old Man had to drag him away to safety.

There were no omens and signs. The collapse of the Astronomic Stellar Formation brought upon the Divine Calamities as it was a supernatural formation and against the nature order of the universe. It was as though the entire heavens were now about to purge the Astronomic Stellar Formation from its memories!

Yu'Er, Mei'Er, the Ascension Goddess, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man were stunned that several Divine Calamities with the power of the Crisis Level had actually descended upon everyone!

Because Yi Ping, Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, Youxue and Yunzi were all taking their Divine Calamities at the same time, the whirling multiple Divine Calamities that were all descending at the same time were a terrifying sight that defied all imaginations!

It seemed to be even more terrifying than a Heavenly Wrath as dozens of twisters appeared all around them and dark electric storms covered the entire heavens!

The entire ground beneath them was also sundered apart as earthquakes shook violently!

Even the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness had never seen anything like this before!

The Universal Old Man had muttered, “Everyone, I think that my Heavenly Tribulation had also come at the same time...”

It was an announcement that had stunned everyone!

The Heavenly Tribulation of an Ancient Celestial like the Universal Old Man was the most powerful of all the Divine Calamities and was known as the Heavenly Wrath!

The Heavenly Wrath was beyond most of the Golden Celestials!

Lingfeng murmured a soft sigh, “I know we shouldn’t bring this old man along. He is nothing but trouble...”

The Universal Old Man protested weakly, “My Heavenly Wrath is earlier by twenty years...just that the disintegration of the Astronomic Stellar Formation brought it forward. This is not entirely my fault.”

Even with all the furious disturbances caused by the nature forces of the Heavenly Tribulations, the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness could not hide their humors. It was because it was not the first time that that they had faced the Heavenly Wrath. They knew that they had to be calm in order to have any ray of hope of surviving!

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, “I have never seen such a phenomenon before...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy nodded slowly, “We cannot intervene. If we intervene, we will only cause more harm than good...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy Shi Shi was right. If they intervene, they would only cause the furies of the Divine Calamities to intensify. Not only that, they had to face the Divine Calamities as well!

That was also the reason why a spiritual and reclusive place was often chosen when it was time for the celestial practitioners to face their Divine Calamities. If other celestial practitioners were presented, it was because they were there as protectors so that outsiders or dark celestial

practitioners would not intervene and distract the celestial practitioner from facing the Divine Calamity.

If the location of their testing were to be learnt by the dark celestial practitioners, there was no doubt that the dark celestials would spare no qualms and sacrifices to intervene in the Divine Calamity so as to take away the lives of the celestial practitioners that were facing the Divine Calamities!

Shen Xingyue muttered as she did a quick calculation with her fingers, “There are so many Divine Calamities descending at the same time, Yi Ping and the rest won’t survive it...”

Lingfeng smiled bitterly, “Then it doesn’t matter if we choose to intervene or not. I am going in...”

Yi Ping was startled, “Lingfeng, our Divine Calamities are about to start soon. Find a safe place to seek refuge...”

Yu’Er interrupted softly with a soft laugh, “I am also going to intervene no matter what. If Ping’Er and my other sisters aren’t around, I really don’t know what to do anymore.”

Mei’Er agreed, “Sister Lingfeng is right. Since the Divine Calamities are already so out of control, then it really doesn’t matter if we choose to intervene or not.”

Yixian was startled as she reprimanded them gently, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er, if you face the Divine Calamities with us then you will surely perish. I don’t want anything untold to happen to you. Pay heed to me, alright?”

Yu’Er smiled, “My protégé mistress! I refuse!”

Mei’Er nodded slowly and she had already drawn out her divine sword!

Lie Qing clapped, “Good! Then let’s us face the Divine Calamities together!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy shifted her mesmerizing eyes, “Don’t forget me too!”

The Ascension Goddess laughed, “As well as me! Even though I don’t

really know what has happened earlier.”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “With so many beautiful maidens that are willing to accompany me, even if I die I will be a happy spirit!”

Lingfeng hummed coldly, “Not for you. Fat hopes and stops dreaming!”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “But that is an undeniable fact now!”

Yi Ping sighed deeply, “All of you...”

Lele said solemnly, “No matter. We must try to survive this. I think we may have the time to set up the Celestial Star Formation first.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy nodded slowly, “Normally, it will take the Divine Calamities a full three hours to unleash its furies.”

Yixian nodded, “Let’s not waste the time and start setting up the formation first.”

Lingfeng said quietly, “Wait. This is the Negative Core Divine Pills. Everyone have one please. We are all going to need it...”

Shen Xingyue took one from her and said solemnly, “Our fates are now up to our own destinies now.”

Yi Ping said softly, “My fate is in my hands...”

Yixian added with a smile, “So are our destinies!”

Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and the rest of the maidens began to laugh jovially amidst the rumbling earthquakes, twisters and the thunderstorms!

As their laughter reached to the heavens, an astonishing sight burst out from a hole in the heavens; a beautiful rainbow luminous by light yellow and blue celestial lights had suddenly burst forth and filled the darkness with a serene tranquility!

Yi Ping was astonished, “What is that?”

The Ascension Goddess gasped, “This is a good omen. An auspicious sign indeed that is said to be able aid celestial practitioners that is undergoing their heavenly tribulations!”

Shen Xingyue was quiet, "But our Divine Calamities are unusual and there is so much this favorable omen can do for us..."

Yixian said gently, "I feel that this is no ordinary rainbow. I feel much calmer now than earlier."

Yi Ping said, "That's right. I feel the same as well."

The Heaven Stellar Fairy nodded, "As long as we can calm ourselves down and not give way to panic, we may still have a ray of hope."

All of a sudden, there was a thunderous roar that had startled them!

It was a Golden Kirin, one of the two Golden Kirins that they had seen earlier and it was standing on top of a mountain ledge!

All of a sudden, the Golden Kirin had jumped down from the mountain ledge and galloped into their direction!

Everyone had immediately turned white with ashen!

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "I think before the Divine Calamities can get to us, we will get kill by the Golden Kirin first..."

The Golden Kirin was extremely swift and with just a few gigantic leaps, it had actually leapt in front of them!

Yi Ping was already grasping the Celestial Alice and he had popped in the Negative Core Divine Pill into his mouth as he braced himself for the forthcoming battle!

But to everyone's utter surprise, the Golden Kirin had exhibited no malevolent air.

In fact, it had suddenly walked gently towards Yi Ping, sitting down quietly as it rubbed its head gently against him!

Yi Ping was muttering, "What is going on?"

Everyone was looking at each other and exchanging curious looks!

Yu'Er said, "It seems that it had come to aid us..."

Mei'Er smiled as she patted the Golden Kirin on its neck gently, "Hmmm...she says that she has come to aid us. So don't worry!"

Yu'Er was already stroking the Golden Kirin as she laughed softly, "She asks us not to be afraid!"

Yi Ping was startled, "You can talk with it?"

Yu'Er replied coolly, "We can exchange empathies with it."

The Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue exchanged a glance with each other. It was because they knew that the Midheaven Epiphanies of the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess indeed was capable of such empathies with all living creatures!

All of a sudden, Yu'Er and Mei'Er eyes had turned sorrowful...

Mei'Er murmured softly besides the Golden Kirin, "So you have come to sacrifice yourself for us? Why?"

Yu'Er was suddenly weeping quietly...

When the full force of the Divine Calamities had finally struck them, it was extremely brutal and merciless. Without the Negative Core Divine Pills, the aid of the Golden Kirin, the Celestial Star Formation and their divine swords, they would not have survived!

Their ordeals were long and heartbreaking...

It was especially for Yunzi, Youxue, Yi Ping, Lele, Lie Qing and Yixian. It was because their states of divinities were too low to suffer the furies of the most powerful Divine Calamity known as the Heavenly Wrath!

Many times, they had a close shave and were so closed to losing one or other...

The Golden Kirin had used its powerful claw to shelter the maidens from being sucked into the furious vortexes that had appeared in the surroundings and had even used its body to tank the lightning strikes that were raining furiously!

It was their willingness to ensure the safety of each other and even using up their last reserve of strength at their own personal cost to save the other that contributed to their miraculous survival...

Naturally, they did not know that.

They did not know that their actions and heartbreaking anxiety for each other had moved the heavens and the earth that part of the Divine Calamities were preventing the worst from descending upon them...

Time passed and the Divine Calamities began to subside...

One by one, they had lost consciousness of their self.

When they had regained their consciousness, they had discovered that they were lying around the protective body of the gigantic Golden Kirin.

For those that had not reached the Ascend Level previously, they were now able to skip several levels of divinities and had now become a True Celestials!

Even though they had survived but the Golden Kirin had not.

The death of the Golden Kirin had saddened Yi Ping and he had blamed himself.

Yu'Er and Mei'Er were particular upset as well.

Lingfeng said melancholy, "The Golden Kirin has died because it is a divine beast. It is not supposed to aid us. For this transgress against the order of things, death is the only penance..."

Yu'Er nodded, "She knows she will die and yet she is willing to do so. I don't understand...are our lives more worthwhile than her life?"

Mei'Er was tearful, "In order to be a Golden Kirin, it must have taken her through countless heavenly tribulation and thousands of years in order to become an immortal divine beast that she is now yet she has given up her life for us..."

Yi Ping could only lament his outcry to the heavens for he was greatly saddened by the demise of the Golden Kirin and the forbidding heavenly maiden...

Back to the present...

"So what are you thinking about? It is her again?" An alluring heartfelt soft sigh could be heard in his ears.

Yi Ping was startled at the familiar alluring voice; he quickly looked up and to his surprise, he saw Lingfeng!

She was dressed in a stunning white garb with golden phoenix sigil and behind her was the Universal Old Man!

He immediately stammered, "You are back?"

There was something different with Lingfeng this time. On her forehead was a small light blue dot.

Lingfeng laughed softly, "Yes I am back."

Yi Ping was startled and so were the rest of the maidens!

Yi Ping stammered, "Lingfeng, your forehead...you have opened your heaven eyes?"

Lingfeng smiled alluringly, "You are not so dumb after all. Yes, I have opened my heaven eyes now."

Lele laughed softly, "It seems that Sister Lingfeng has reached a new level of divinity now."

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, "I have heard that the Heaveness is renowned for her Heaven Eyes Divine Skill. Now I can finally get to see it! You are wearing the Celestium Silk?"

Lingfeng laughed shyly, "That's right."

All the other maidens were startled. It was because Lingfeng had never told anyone of them that she had in possession of the Celestium Silk.

Yi Ping was startled, "So that is the reason why you are away?"

Lingfeng nodded gently.

The Universal Old Man had a broad smile as he looked at Yi Ping and the rest of his consorts, "Have you forgotten that you have a protégé master?"

Yi Ping immediately said, "My respects to my protégé master!"

The Universal Old Man laughed, "I have thought that you have forgotten about me."

Yi Ping said respectfully, "Your protégé dare not!"

All of a sudden Lingfeng interrupted with a soft sigh, "Yi Ping, don't feel sad. She may still be alive after all."

Yi Ping was suddenly roused as he asked elatedly, "She may be alive? Really? Lingfeng, surely you are not trying to make me feel better..."

Lingfeng kicked him on his foot as she laughed softly, "I don't like to make you feel better. I like to make you feel miserable. Are you happy now?"

But her expressions were suddenly solemn as she added, "Even though I cannot tell for sure if she is alive or not but why don't you think of it another way? If she is not alive, who sends the Golden Kirin to aid us?"

Yi Ping was stunned as he muttered, "That's right...if she is not alive, who sends the Golden Kirin to aid us..."

All the maidens began to look at each other with unsure expressions. It was because they had already thought of this question before...

Could it be that Lingfeng was just trying to make Yi Ping feel better?

Lingfeng smiled casually, "So if we want to know if she is alive then we must go to the Unmoving Mountains. That is where the next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary will be and if she is alive, she will definitely be there!"

Yi Ping muttered, "That's right. She will definitely go there if she is alive..."

Chapter 110: The Unmoving Mountains

The Unmoving Mountains was the largest mountain range in the Celestium Realm. At any one time, at least three auspicious rainbows or golden clouds were always in sight. It was indeed the perfect practice and mediation ground for the celestial practitioners.

Unfortunately, the Unmoving Mountains already had an owner. It was none other than the Holy Ascension Sect!

The Holy Ascension Sect was the most powerful and most numerous celestial clan in the entire Celestial Realm; the number of prominent and powerful celestial practitioners in the Holy Ascension Sect had also far exceeded all the other celestial clans!

Lately, the Holy Ascension Sect had even spread its influence all of a sudden to dominate over a third of the celestial clans in the Celestial Realm!

At any time of the day, there would be dozens of celestial practitioners ascending the misty steep steps of the Unmoving Mountains to pay homage to the Holy Ascension Sect.

Needless to say, there were dozens of celestial sentries that watched over the heavenly steps of the Holy Ascension Sect.

However, this month there was a large congregation that was taking place in the Holy Ascension Sect and the number of sentries had more than doubled; the Holy Ascension Sect had issued a summon for all its celestial practitioners and had even invited the major celestial clans in the Celestial Realm. Therefore the number of celestial visitors for this month was in their thousands!

However even the celestial sentries that were standing vigilantly at the Heaven's Gate of the Holy Ascension Sect who had seen plenty of unusual celestials were not prepared for the sight that had greeted them; a young man with a righteous air, an old man and eleven stunning beauties!

The protégés of the Holy Ascension Sect numbered a dozen and leading

them were three Golden Celestials. The rest were ordinary protégés; it was because in the Celestial Realm while it was possible for ordinary practitioners to be dark celestials by eating the hearts of the celestials, it was nearly rare for ordinary practitioners to become even the lowest level celestial practitioners as the Divine Calamity rarely occurred for mortals.

The Ascension Goddess smiled as she saw them, “Wu Han, Feng Mantian, Luo Wei. Have you forgotten who I am already?”

Feng Mantian smiled bitterly, “We dare not. But a major congregation is currently taking place now. It is best that you...”

The Ascension Goddess hummed coldly as she interrupted, “You are suggesting that I do not deserve to attend this congregation?”

Feng Mantian smiled bitterly, “I dare not but...”

He looked at Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man before saying, “I have heard that the new domain lord of the Tranquil City is a dashing young man. Is he the one?”

Yi Ping bowed with his hands, “I am Yi Ping.”

Feng Mantian appraised Yi Ping quietly. He had previously heard that the domain lord of the Tranquil City was just a lowly celestial practitioner and he was called Yi Ping. However, this young man that was standing in front of him was a golden eye celestial and a true celestial!

How was it possible? Or had they got their information wrong? What they had known about the domain lord of the Tranquil City were from the Four Ascension Reverend Priests and they were all held in high regard within the Holy Ascension Sect.

Wu Han hummed coldly as he looked at Yi Ping but he was also unconsciously looking at the rest of the maidens, “So you are Yi Ping. We have not come looking for you and yet you are so bold enough to court your own death by coming here. Right, Luo Wei?”

He gave a cold look at Luo Wei.

Luo Wei was stammering, “That is right...” His attention had been

completely captivated by the eleven beauties.

Lele interrupted with a cold smirk as she stared coldly at Wu Han, "Hey! You are so rude. Are you going to give way immediately and let us through?"

She was even ruder than Wu Han!

Yi Ping immediately said, "We have come to pay our respects to the Lord Supreme. Can you be so kind enough to inform the protégé master of the Holy Ascension Sect that we seek an audience with him?"

Feng Mantian said solemnly, "Our protégé master will not see anyone that is uninvited..."

Lie Qing laughed softly, "However, I know of a way that will surely attract the attention of your protégé master..."

Yu'Er was giggling as she drawn out her beaming divine sword!

Mei'Er had also stepped forward with her divine sword!

Feng Mantian was startled, "This is! Do you know that death awaits you if you dare to trespass the Holy Ascension Sect?!"

Shen Xingyue said coldly, "Do you think that with the three of you alone, you are able to stop us?"

Feng Mantian said bitterly as he looked at the Ascension Goddess, "Do you think you can fight your way to the top? Do you know how many celestial practitioners there are along the way to the top? Before you can reach the top, you will be dead!"

Indeed, he was not lying!

There were indeed many celestial practitioners that were guarding the various intermediate points along the heaven steps of the Holy Ascension Sect. In fact right now, all the movements of the intruders could clearly be seen by the invisible celestial practitioners that were stationed along the way!

The Ascension Goddess smiled, "Of course I know how many celestial exponents there are along the way. But let me tell you; if I want to force

my way to the top, none of you here will be able to stop me!”

Feng Mantian, Luo Wei and Wu Han began to exchange anxious look with each other while the other protégés were looking at their masters nervously.

The Ascension Goddess stroked her long hair as she added, “You must know who I am. Do you think you are able to stop me? Or my friends here?”

The Ascension Goddess was one of the newly seven most powerful celestials in the Celestial Realm. Indeed, it was a difficult thing to stop her!

Just as Feng Mantian, Luo Wei and Wu Han were hesitating; a company of maidens that numbered three dozen had suddenly appeared in the horizon!

They were all dressed in a white-black garbs and holding long swords. Leading them was a beautiful lady with pristine golden eyes.

Except for the beautiful lady, all the other maidens were veiled. Only six others of the veiled maidens had golden eyes while the rest had crimson eyes!

That could only mean one thing! They were dark celestial practitioners!

Feng Mantian hummed coldly, “Even Lady Snowflake of the Erudite Sect is here today. What a surprise! Do you know how many orthodox celestial clans are here today at the Holy Ascension Sect? Are you courting your own destruction by coming here today?”

Lady Snowflake looked at Yi Ping as she gave him a sly smile before replying Feng Mantian, “I see that the Holy Ascension Sect has some uninvited guests today. Do you want me to help you to drive these intruders away?”

Shen Xingyue, Youxue, Lingfeng and the other maidens gave Lady Snowflake and Yi Ping a cold look.

But Yi Ping did not seem to notice as he stared past Lady Snowflake and

he was looking at one of the maidens that were behind her. But that particular maiden began to step discreetly behind and Yi Ping was left wondering, "Why is that her eyes are so familiar..."

Feng Mantian hummed coldly, "We don't need any help from the dark celestial clans. You know very well that a certain doom awaits you and yet you dare to come. Aren't you foolish or what?"

Lady Snowflake laughed softly, "Mine, mine. This isn't the reception that I have been expecting. I have heard that the Holy Ascension Sect has been recruiting several celestial clans as of late regardless if it is a dark celestial clan or not. Therefore we have come to swear fealty to the Holy Ascension Sect. Aren't you going to welcome us?"

Feng Mantian hummed coldly, "You can leave now. You are not welcome here. Or else I will be forced to sound the heavenly dongs and raise the alarm."

The Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue exchanged curious looks with each other. It was because most celestial clans did not even dare to intrude upon the Holy Ascension Sect, seeking to avoid conflicts as much as possible. This was indeed something weird!

Lady Snowflake was not deterred as she smiled gently, "You are not afraid that after I have left, I will tell the other clans that the Stellar Sanctuary will descend on the Unmoving Mountains?"

Feng Mantian, Wu Han, Luo Wei, Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and everyone else were startled and had turned ashen!

It was because it was impossible to divine the exact timing and location of the next coming of the Stellar Sanctuary. Yet the Erudite Sect, a small clan with limited resources and strength was able to foretell the next coming of the Stellar Sanctuary?

Feng Mantian regained his composure as he said coldly, "Rubbish! No one can predict the next coming of the Stellar Sanctuary."

Lady Snowflake laughed softly, "Really? If what I have said is rubbish then why are there so many celestial clans that are gathering here? Even

the Celestial Infinity Sword Clan has decided to accept the invitation of the Holy Ascension Sect and has already come. I don't ever remember the Celestial Infinity Sword Clan has ever accepted an invitation from the Holy Ascension Sect. All in all, at least three thousand celestials and numerous protégés from at least a hundred celestial clans have gathered here today. ”

Yi Ping was startled as he looked at Yunzi and the Ascension Goddess...

He could still remember the hallowing fight with the Celestial Infinity Sword Clan six months ago...

Lady Snowflake smiled at Yi Ping, “Handsome man. If they refuse to let us in, do you want to join hands with us to barge into the grand hall of the Holy Ascension Sect? I have overheard some of your conversations earlier. You are Yi Ping, the leader of the Tranquil City. Do you know that your celestial clan is branded a dark celestial clan by the Holy Ascension Sect too? We have almost fifty of us here. Surely barging in isn't a problem?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he said, “I didn't really come to fight...”

Feng Mantian had already drawn out his long sword, “You won't find us so easy to handle. All Ascendants protégés heed my commands...”

All of a sudden, the entire mountains were reverberating as cold voice could be heard echoing, “Since they are already here and are not afraid of courting their own deaths, why don't you invite them in?”

Feng Mantian and the Ascension Goddess immediately turned pale.

Feng Mantian immediately stammered, “It is Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage!”

It was because the voice belonged to Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage. He was one of the four most powerful celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect, a Supreme Celestial as well as the Right Protector of the Holy Ascension Sect!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage echoed, “Is that the Perpetual Darkness? So the mistress of the Perpetual Darkness has managed to ascend. This is indeed something unusual. I sense the presence of so many divine swords.

The Dark Enchantress is here today?”

Shen Xingyue began to tremble at his voice as she said respectfully, “My respects to the Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage. I am indeed the Dark Enchantress but the mistress of the Perpetual Darkness is someone else.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage echoed, “Oh?”

Another voice reverberated, “We can explain to you later. You have just stepped from your retreat and may not be aware of what has happened lately.” It was Reverend Sword Pilgrim who was also a Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect!

Reverend Sword Pilgrim echoed solemnly, “The Ascension Goddess, surely you know the fate that awaits traitors and for forsaking the Ascension Fire?”

The Ascension Goddess was solemn as she used her Thousand Miles Resonate Skill, “I know. That is why I am here today to clarify things.”

Actually the Ascension Goddess was pretty close to Reverend Sword Pilgrim. She knew that he was trying to drive her away and that was why he was displaying such hostilities. That was why she did not mind his rudeness at all.

All of a sudden Yu’Er interrupted softly. “Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage. So it is you. Surely you have not forgotten about me?”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage asked, “Who are you?”

Mei’Er said coldly, “Surely you have not forgotten how we have helped you to ascend in the past?”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was heard echoing, “You are the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess!?”

Mei’Er laughed softly, “That’s right and it is best that you quickly invite us inside or else you have to bear the consequences!”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage quickly said, “Invite them in!”

Reverend Sword Pilgrim reverberated, “Elder, they are traitors. I don’t think we should...”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage echoed sternly, "Enough. Invite them in and inform the Lord Supreme."

The Lord Supreme was the supreme leader of the Holy Ascension Sect!

Reverend Sword Pilgrim was startled, "But the Lord Supreme is still in retreat and did not want to be disturbed..."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said sternly, "Just do as I say. I will bear full responsibilities for this."

Reverend Sword Pilgrim was heard sighing softly...

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage paused for a while before echoing, "Mantian, what are you waiting for? Invite them in. A major celestial clan like the Holy Ascension Sect has nothing to fear from a dark celestial clan."

Feng Mantian muttered, "This is..."

Lady Snowflake laughed softly as she winked at Yi Ping, "So I guess we are invited in as well, all thanks to your group!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly and he did not dare to look into her eyes openly.

Chapter 111: The Golden Ascension Hall

When they had finally reached the top of the heavens stairs, the grandeur of the Holy Ascension Sect became apparent. Hundreds of gold and white towering buildings and towers dotted the horizons and the ridges.

Hundreds of celestial practitioners were waiting for them on the white platform at the top.

Two old men were standing at the end of the heaven stairs; one with a completely white hair and the other with gray hair. The one with completely white hair was Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and the one with gray hair was Reverend Sword Pilgrim.

Shen Xingyue gasped softly, "So this is the Celestial Holy Ascension Sect. It is the aspirations of all the Ascendants in the lower realm to one day step into the Golden Ascension Hall and have their names recorded in the ascendant annuals that is in there."

The Ascension Goddess sighed softly and her voice became barely audible, "Unfortunately, trying to remove your name from the ascendant annuals is almost impossible."

Yu'Er laughed softly, "Things aren't that bad, am I right?"

Mei'Er said slyly, "Master Yi Ping, do you think you want to be the protégé leader of the Holy Ascension Sect?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he whispered discreetly, "This is not funny. We are here to persuade the Lord Supreme to forgive Ye Yin..."

The Ascension Goddess looked at him gently at the mention of her name, "Ping'Er..."

Yi Ping continued, "...and to see if we can form a temporary alliance together for the Stellar Sanctuary."

Youxue nodded as she said casually, "They are already so influential. So why should they share the spoils with small fries like us? I say, we have better luck looting their treasure vaults than the Stellar Sanctuary."

Yunzi smiled bitterly. It was because she knew that Youxue was entirely serious about looting the Holy Ascension Sect. She reminded herself to keep a careful watch over her just in case she would get into serious trouble...

Yixian said gently, "So this is the site of the most powerful celestial clan in the Celestial Realm. It is indeed as lofty as the mountains, as tranquil as the white clouds and as translucent as spring water."

Lele brushed back her long braided hair, laughing jovially. "You know sister. Suddenly, I have a feeling that your presence today will turn the entire place upside down. The most beautiful maiden in the Celestial Realm..."

Yixian laughed gently, "The celestials here are all highly attained celestial practitioners with no mortal affections. You should keep this in mind..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was laughing softly, "These highly attained celestial practitioners sure look like wolves."

Lie Qing was also laughing jovially, "You look sister. These highly attained celestial practitioners are all looking at us now..."

It was the truth. Hundreds of celestial practitioners were looking at the laughing maidens and were completely mesmerized by them!

Many were looking flustered and were just staring blankly at the number of beautiful maidens that had just arrived!

Feng Mantian who was walking in front of their group had suddenly called out aloud, "This is Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim."

When Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim saw Yi Ping and his group, they were slightly startled. It was not easy for them to be startled given their state of divinity.

When Yi Ping had appeared in their view, he was like a beacon of light that had immediately caught everyone's attention!

In fact, the Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim had never seen anyone like him before!

What was also startling to them was that the usual cold Ascension Goddess was smiling and looking tenderly at that young man. She was not the only one; almost all the maidens, including the ones in Lady Snowflake's group were also looking at him with interest!

They had never seen the Ascension Goddess with such an expression!

The entire scene was like an unreal picturesque heavenly scene filled with the jovial laughs of many heavenly maidens except that it was really real!

That was not all. Even though they had sheathed their divine swords, the divine aura of their divine swords could not be masked from the Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim.

The Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim looked at each other with a startled expression. It was because they had never seen so many divine swords at the same time or had heard of any particular group in the Celestial Realm that could possibly be in possession of such a large quantity of divine swords!

They had almost shivered in cold sweat because of that!

The Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim were the Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect and so naturally, they had their own divine swords.

However, the number of divine swords that they had witnessed today was actually more than the possession of the Holy Ascension Sect in its entire history!

Even Lady Snowflake of the Erudite Sect had a divine sword that was white and encased with precious gems!

All of a sudden, Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage had a startled expression as he pointed at the Universal Old Man and Lingfeng, "The two of you, why are you here..."

The Universal Old Man grumbled, "Why shouldn't I be here? I am accompanying my protégé to take a tour of the Holy Ascension Sect."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, the Universal Old Man and the Heaviness had once fought bitterly in the Stellar Sanctuary!

Lingfeng looked at Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage quietly but did not say a word.

Instead, her attentions were on Yi Ping.

Given Yi Ping's state of divinity and his attainment in the Emptiness Translucence, he was able to hide his true emotions from even Yu'Er and Mei'Er. However, given Lingfeng's attainment in the Great Emptiness Translucence and with the awakening of her heaven eyes, she could sense his uneasiness.

She thought, "What is it, Yi Ping? What is wrong?"

Yi Ping seemed to take the trip to the Unmoving Mountains well and was unafraid. However, she had suddenly sensed a sudden change in his Emptiness Translucence when Lady Snowflake had shown up...

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage muttered, "Very good. You are really bold to come here."

But his attention quickly turned to the rest of the maidens, "Who is the Dark Enchantress, the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess?"

At the mention of the Eclipse and the Axis Heaven Goddess, the atmosphere among the hundreds of Ascendant celestial practitioners turned weirdly solemn. It was because the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess had a mysterious pull over many of the Ascendant celestial practitioners, with many of them previously receiving help from them in the past!

Shen Xingyue said angelically, "I am the Dark Enchantress but now I am the Fiery Phoenix."

Yu'Er said casually, "I am the Eclipse Heaven Goddess."

Mei'Er nodded quietly, "Yes, I am the Axis Heaven Goddess."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage looked at the divine swords that were with them as he muttered, "Very good. Good! Good! Good! The Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess have finally ascended!"

Yu'Er said casually, "They are my friends. You must not harm them, alright?"

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage nodded as he said aloud, "You have heard the Eclipse Heaven Goddess? Treat our guests with respect!"

Not only was Yi Ping bewildered, many of the Ascendants celestial practitioners were also bewildered!

Feng Mantian muttered, "But shouldn't we detain the Ascension Goddess first?"

Reverend Sword Pilgrim interrupted coldly, "Until the Lord Supreme says otherwise, she is still the Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect."

Feng Mantian quickly said, "Yes, yes."

Yi Ping turned to ask Yu'Er in bewilderment, "Yu'Er, you have said that you have a plan when we have reached the Unmoving Mountains. This... this is your plan?"

Yu'Er winked at him, "That is right."

Yi Ping was startled, "This...what kind of a plan is this..."

Lady Snowflake gave a sly smile as she asked Yu'Er, "Good sister. We are your friends too, am I right?"

Yu'Er gave an equally sly smile, "What do you think?"

Lady Snowflake smiled, "Of course we are your friends or else I would not have tried to render my help to your group earlier, am I right?"

Mei'Er said quietly, "I don't know your true purposes in coming here but I know you are not a bad person. You can join us inside but you won't have an easy time inside. It is wiser for you to leave."

Lady Snowflake smiled, "Good sister, you are so kind. Don't worry about me. I will be careful. After all..."

She looked at Yi Ping alluringly, “Someone here will take care of me, am I right?”

Yi Ping was immediately flustered but he quickly replied solemnly, “We may have already made several powerful enemies with some of the celestial clans inside and will only bring trouble to you.”

Lady Snowflake smiled, “For example, like the Celestial Infinity Sword Clan?”

Yi Ping looked at her and nodded quietly.

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said solemnly, “Come with me to the Golden Ascension Hall. However...”

He stared coldly at Lady Snowflake, “However, only true celestials are allowed inside the Golden Ascension Hall. There are no exceptions. The rest of you must wait at the Purple Mist Ancestral Hall.”

Lady Snowflake sighed softly as she looked at her protégés who were all wearing straw hats and were veiled except for their eyes, “All the elder protégés follow me. The rest of you await my orders in the Purple Mist Ancestral Hall.”

“Yes Mistress!” All her protégés raised their hands at the same time as they answered their protégé mistress.

Immediately, six of her protégés who were all golden eyes celestials stepped forward at the same time!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said, “Wu Han, escort them to the Purple Mist Ancestral Hall first.”

Wu Han said to the protégés of the Erudite Sect, “Maidens, please follow me!”

One of the maidens replied, “Please lead the way.”

Wu Han nodded and he immediately marched to a different direction as he said to the dozens of Ascendant protégés who were blocking his way, “May protégé brothers give way to us.”

Dozens of Ascendants began to move aside as they secretly ogled at the

celestial maidens who walked quietly past them.

Meanwhile, Yi Ping was looking keenly at one of maidens with the golden eyes. He could not see her face for her straw hat had covered her forehead and her veil had covered her face.

Just as he was about to say something, Lingfeng gave him a kick. "What are you thinking?"

Yi Ping muttered panicky, "Erm, nothing..."

Lingfeng asked softly, "Really nothing?"

Yi Ping whispered, "I think there is a familiar feeling with that maiden over there. Her eyes..."

Lingfeng hummed coldly, "You are really courting your own death! You can't even see their faces and yet you are attracted to one of them."

Yi Ping began to fluster, "Not that..."

Lele had overheard as well as she hummed coldly, "Who is she? I will gorge her eyes out."

Yi Ping panicky said, "You got it all wrong..."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage interrupted solemnly, "Follow my lead into the Golden Ascension Hall..."

Lady Snowflake winked at Yi Ping as she whispered softly, "Let go in. Why is that you don't seem to be interested in me but you seem to be looking at one of my protégés?"

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly and he was so embarrassed that he dared not look at the familiar maiden anymore.

It was because he had also noticed that Lele and Lingfeng were looking at him with displeasure!

Lady Snowflake discreetly looked at her protégés.

The maiden that had caught Yi Ping's attention earlier nodded quietly to her...

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage led them across the vast platform and

through the towering gates of the Golden Ascension Hall.

It was not before long that they had all stepped into the Golden Ascension Hall.

Only Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, Reverend Sword Pilgrim, Luo Wei, Feng Mantian and a dozen of the Ascendant celestials walked into the Golden Ascension Hall.

Once inside the Golden Ascension Hall, Yi Ping was immediately overwhelmed by what in the interior of the beautiful golden hall. He was not the only one. Except for the Ascension Goddess, even Yu'Er and Mei'Er were startled!

It was because meditating on the three rows of platforms in the Golden Ascension Hall were more than a thousand highly attained celestials from more than a hundred celestial clans!

The sum of their combined presence was so overwhelming that Yi Ping felt as though he was just an insignificant person in a vast ocean...

Yi Ping had quickly looked around and had recognized the Northern Tyrant and the Deadly Wanderer from among the golden celestials.

The Deadly Wanderer was startled to see Yi Ping and his group again as he rose from his seat hurriedly, muttering. "They are all golden celestials now? How is it possible?"

He was actually thinking day and night when he could chance upon these maidens again so much that it had actually affected his celestial practice!

At the same time, the meditating celestial practitioners were all opening their eyes one by one!

It was because Yi Ping's righteous air was equally disturbing to them and that the divine auras of their divine swords were like beacons of light to these highly attained celestials!

Moreover, these maidens that had just walked in were just too stunning and enchanting that the air seemed suddenly suffocating!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said aloud, “This hall is divided into two major sections, the gold and silver section. Only celestial clans that come with more than twelve true celestials are entitled to sit in the golden section.”

He looked at Yi Ping and pointed to an empty platform further in front, “Your clan will be seated in the golden section over there.”

As Yi Ping looked in the direction that he was pointing, he noticed that there were a dozen celestial banners on both sides of the golden section.

All of a sudden, Yi Ping and his group shifted uncomfortably!

It was because they had suddenly noticed that their seating arrangement were just the opposite of the Celestial Infinity Sword Clan! The Immortal Saint of Swords, the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and the Immortal Sword Blitz Sage were all staring coldly at them!

Dozens of powerful celestials from the golden section had already stood up and was smiling coldly!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage turned towards Lady Snowflake, “Your clan will be seated in the silver section.” It was a command and not a request!

Lady Snowflake smiled bitterly and as she reluctantly moved towards the silver section. All of a sudden, one of her protégés walked quietly to her and whispered softly to her.

Suddenly, Lady Snowflake smiled as she said aloud, “What if I refuse and insist on having a seating arrangement at the golden section.”

Immediately, hundreds of highly attained celestials from numerous celestial clans burst into uproar, startled by her insolent proclamation!

No one was able to break the celestial rule of the Holy Ascension Sect. No one dare!

For a minor celestial clan like the Erudite Sect to proclaim such an outrageous request was like courting their own destruction, especially when it was just a dark celestial clan that all the major orthodox celestial

clans would not hesitate to destroy at a moment notice!

The fighting spirits of these golden celestials were suddenly stirred!

It was because it was a chance for them to impress the heavenly maidens that were here with their martial skills and to demonstrate their clan prowess in front of the other celestial clans!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage laughed and his voice reverberated throughout the Golden Ascension Hall, "Because you have proclaimed it in my presence, then I am afraid that you have to accept the challenges of all the celestials in this hall in order to be allowed into the golden section, especially from the celestials in the golden section!"

Yi Ping had immediately turned to Lady Snowflake, "Lady, this is not worth throwing your life away. It is not too late or disgraceful at all to retract..."

He was immediately distracted by a dozen celestial practitioners from the golden and silver section of the hall as they leapt from their platform while shouting, "Impudent!"

Lady Snowflake appeared disturbed but she quickly regained her composure.

She handed her white sword to the protégé besides her, "Ziyan, you will take my place and take care of these insignificant challengers."

Immediately, she provoked even more challengers by her bold statements!

Ziyan took the white sword quietly and nodded.

Everyone began to take an interest at this maiden. It was because this maiden seemed to be taking her orders calmly. At the same time, she made no attempt to remove her straw hair and veil. This in turn caused many curious stares!

Lady Snowflake said coolly, "My protégé Ziyan is a mute. So she won't be able to say anything. But those that want to fight me will have to fight my protégé first!"

She smiled as she looked at the hundreds of golden celestials around her, "That of course is my rule to prove if you are capable first before you can duel with me."

That immediately provoked angry mutterings from many of the celestials that were on the platform!

Another twenty hostile celestials had immediately leaped from the platform!

Yi Ping had also taken a step forward when Lingfeng cautioned him, "Let us observe first..."

Yi Ping muttered, "There are so many of them and this Maiden Ziyang is just one. These golden celestials are completely different from what we have fought previously..."

But before he was completely done with voicing his concerns, this Maiden Ziyang had moved into the midst of her challengers!

Before the challengers could even compose themselves, five golden celestials were crawling on the ground in pain as she struck them down with the still unsheathed sword!

It had happened too quickly, taking many by surprise!

Yi Ping was startled by her speed!

Lingfeng, Shen Xingyue, Lele, the Universal Old Man, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Lie Qing, Youxue, Yunzi, the Ascension Goddess, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Yixian had all secretly turned ashen!

A celestial shouted aloud, "I am Vengeful God Shuntian..." He had leapt forward with a thunderous martial force that caused a tremendous windforce that rippled throughout the surroundings!

Immediately several dozen celestials that were sitting by the side of the platform shouted excitedly, "That is the Flammable Marvelous Fist! It is indeed an eye opening today! This is a technique can even grind rocks to powder!"

There was a thunderous impact as Maiden Ziyang raised her fingers

forward to receive the incoming attack!

To the startled astonishment of everyone and to the relief of Yi Ping, barely had the Vengeful God Shuntian proudly declared his presence he had coughed out a bout of blood and was sent flying backward with a large impact against the wall!

More than thirty celestials that had just stepped forward to teach her a lesson had all frozen in their tracks as they began to appraise her anew.

These celestials had thought that she was just an average golden celestial and had wanted to brush her aside as quickly as possible so they could teach Lady Snowflake a lesson for forgetting her place 'in the order of things'.

However they were still confident that they would be able to overcome her since there were simply too many of them!

However, it was not an entirely honorable thing to do if they employed wolf pack tactics to do so!

All of a sudden, there was a cold hum that grabbed everyone's attention, followed by three other celestials each with two swords on their back.

A sagely old man with three swords on his back had walked towards Maiden Ziyan and saying coldly, "Maiden Ziyan? I have never heard that there is such a highly skilled mute celestial in the Celestial Realm."

Yi Ping was startled and so was everyone. It was because it was the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage of the Celestial Infinity Sword Clan with his all too familiar cold terrifying killing malevolent air!

Also, judging from the sword auras of the three celestials with two swords on their back, there were no doubt that they were all super exponents of the Infinity Sword Techniques!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had naturally recognized Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue, Yunzi and Yixian. He was startled that Yi Ping and some of his group were now true celestials as he thought, "They are true celestials now? How can it be? How is it possible for these lowly celestial practitioners to attain past the various states of celestial divinities in just

six months? This is impossible! Can it be...can it be that they have discovered the secrets that are within the Celestial Alice?"

Lady Snowflake muttered, "His sword energies aura...such terrifying pressuring presence..."

Shen Xingyue had immediately grasped her divine sword at the same time as Lie Qing. They were smiling secretly to each other and thinking of the same thing; they wanted to be the first to challenge the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and hoped to observe Yi Ping's panicky expressions for them!

They were simply jealous and envy of the attentions that Yi Ping had showered on Yunzi, Yixian and the Ascension Goddess a few months ago!

They were playing a dangerous game. It was because the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was an opponent that was above them in martial skill and techniques!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage added coldly, "You are using a fake name?"

Lady Snowflake laughed coldly, "You really know how to joke. There are thousands of celestials and countless number of Autonomous Celestials in the Celestial Realm. My protégé is just an insignificant celestial among my countless protégés..."

The Immortal Sword Zealot said icily as he raised his long sword from his back and displayed the Ley Negative Sword Energies towards Lady Snowflake. "Insolent!"

Immediately, several bursts of sword energies flew towards Lady Snowflake, startling her!

Yi Ping who was wary of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had immediately drawn out the Celestial Alice while Lie Qing and Shen Xingyue were not slow either to either to jump to the defense of Lady Snowflake.

They had thought they were fast enough and faster than anyone else but this Maiden Ziyang was even faster than them as she actually flew into

the midst of the deadly sword bursts, deflecting and dissipating the deadly sword energies from Lady Snowflake!

All the celestials were stunned! It was because they had never seen anyone who could be so reckless enough to charge into a volley of sword energies!

Now this was totally different from deflecting and dissipating sword energies from a position. This feat was much, much more difficult and almost an impossible feat to most celestials!

However, Maiden Ziyan did not actually escape unscathed. At least her straw hat had received damage, revealing her forehead and loosening her long silken hair!

Yi Ping was stunned!

But yet at the same time, he had finally confirmed his suspicions!

While he was still not able to see her face, he could now see her familiar golden eyes and the all too familiar three tiny pink petals markings that were engraved on her forehead!

Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and his consorts had immediately thought of the forbidding heavenly maiden that they had last seen in the Astronomic Stellar Formation!

Yi Ping had stepped forward nervously as he murmured, "Is that really you? I know it is really you. You are safe and sound?"

Maiden Ziyan lowered her head...

Chapter 112: The Astronomic Eulogy

Divine Sword

When the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage saw the three pink petals that were on Maiden Ziyan's forehead, he was slightly taken aback.

Many of the powerful celestials in the golden section of the Golden Ascension Hall immediately rose to their feet to take a curious look!

Many of the celestials were also muttering at the same time, "She has already opened her Heaven Eyes but her protégé mistress has not. Isn't that a strange thing?"

Normally, the celestials that had their Heaven Eyes opened were the founders or the protégé masters of their clans due to higher attainment. That were what the majority of the celestial practitioners had thought when they saw a large number of powerful celestial lords had suddenly rose to their feet!

However, even though the opening of the Heaven Eyes were a rare occurrence, it was still not enough to cause so many of the highly attained celestials to take an interested look. Even some of the celestials that were still closing their eyes had suddenly opened their eyes!

Yi Ping and his group were startled for an entire different reason!

It was because everyone had their own unique aura and it was something that most celestials would not forget even if they had not met for a long time or even when their present state of divinity had changed!

So precise was the Ascension Goddess aura sensing ability that she could differentiate attacks and anyone even if she was blind-folded.

As for the Universal Old Man, Shen Xingyue, Lingfeng, Yu'Er and Mei'Er, their celestial sense was highly attuned so it was not possible for anyone to mask their unique aura from them either.

This sense of identification applied to most of the highly attained celestials!

But the forbidding heavenly maiden was able to hide her aura so completely that she was able to fool the formidable celestials that she had encountered before.

But Yi Ping seemed to have recognized her...

The forbidding heavenly maiden asked softly while her head was still lowered, "How do you know?"

Yi Ping muttered, "Your eyes...I can never forget your eyes..."

Not only the auras of each individual were unique, the eyes of each individual were also unique!

Except that it was a lot more difficult to tell from eyes alone!

The forbidding heavenly maiden slowly raised her head and looked into Yi Ping's eyes. It was because she could not forget that day either in the epicenter of the Astronomic Stellar Formation as they looked at each other in the same way...

When the Astronomic Stellar Formation was breaking apart, she had not only sustained a huge blow to her attainment strength as she shared a soul link to the Astronomic Stellar Formation, she had to face her long due heavenly tribulation.

At that time, she had stumbled into the dark abyss and the black hole underneath was sucking her into it.

All of a sudden, a strong hand had grabbed her and that was Yi Ping!

All of a sudden, her heart had skipped a beat as she could feel the warmth of his hand and his passionate desire to save her. This had the effect of warming her heart and changed her death wish.

"The warmth of his hands. Is it really him!?"

All of a sudden, she felt that life had a purpose and that she did not want to die anymore and her resolute was strengthened!

However, she did not want Yi Ping to perish along with her so she pushed him off; she had already felt his faltering strength and if Yi Ping did not let go soon, he too would be dragged into the dark abyss.

That was also the last time Yi Ping had seen her...

In the dark abyss, she had descended slowly until she had reached the ground.

The gravity of the black hole drained her already weak physical body while she was inside the dark abyss. She popped a Negative Core Divine Pill into her mouth before she closed her eyes in the dark abyss as she meditated quietly while she waited for the worse of the heavenly tribulation to arrive.

She had to recover as quickly as possible!

Her will may be resolute but her body was weak.

She thought, "This is the end of me. It is too late for regrets now..."

Suddenly, she opened her eyes. It was because her hyper sense detected a familiar approach!

Very soon, two Golden Kirins had approached from the dark recess of the darkness and they were bellowing for their mistress!

The forbidding heavenly maiden could only sighed softly, "I am too weak to even stand..."

One of the Golden Kirins had a white long sword in its jaws and dropped it gently on the ground in front of her.

This white long sword was a divine sword in the immortal class type of the Celestial Alice and the Heavenly Earth Sword. Even the raging powers of the black hole vortexes were not able to lift it from the ground even though nothing was holding the divine sword in place!

The forbidding heavenly maiden was startled as she touched her sword with trembling fingers as she said to the Golden Kirins, "You have actually brought my Astronomic Eulogy with you..."

"How long has it been? How many millenniums now? I am sorry that I have sealed you for so long but it is essential that I used you. This powerful Astronomic Stellar Formation requires a divine sword to be used as the heart of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Now that the Epicenter

Eye is destroyed, you are freed now. Do you blame me?"

The Astronomic Eulogy responded by glowing brilliantly!

The forbidding heavenly maiden gasped softly, "You are not angry with me? You are willing to fight alongside with me?"

The Astronomic Eulogy responded by reverberating soundly and its halo was even brighter than before!

The forbidding heavenly maiden was moved as she smiled weakly, "Good!"

She looked at the Golden Kirins, "I have a rude request. It is alright not to accede to it. You have met the group of intruders am I right? The breaking up of the Astronomic Stellar Formation will surely invite the Divine Calamities. You have seen the group that I have brought in earlier. I want you to aid them. But no matter what, you must escape from this dark abyss as quickly as possible. It is because an Immortal Wrath will strike soon and it is extremely dangerous even for divine beasts like you."

The two Golden Kirins bemoaned for a while and one of the Golden Kirins had suddenly departed!

The forbidding heavenly maiden gasped, "Why don't you leave?!"

The Golden Kirin that had stayed behind howled melancholy!

The forbidding heavenly maiden was so moved that she wept, "You! Do you know that it is a certain death if you stay here? You are freed! Why don't you go? Go back to the Fifth Heavens where you belonged!"

But the Golden Kirin howled even more woefully, refusing to move a single inch!

The forbidding heavenly maiden nodded tearfully, "Since you have already made up your mind, it is futile to say more."

The Golden Kirin howled loudly and stomped its claws on the ground!

The forbidding heavenly maiden laughed softly, "Stop poking fun at your mistress? Did I really cry just now? I am a highly attained immortal

that is above all mortal affections. It is just the sands. This place is really dusty...you know..."

Chapter 113: The Goddess Celestial Alice

The Erudite Sect was a minor celestial clan in the Celestial Realm and on numerous times, was on the verge of destruction. In order to survive in the harsh realities of the Celestial Realm, it was forced eventually to become a dark celestial realm.

Lady Snowflake was the present protégé mistress of the Erudite Sect. She was also the high priestess of the Erudite Sect. The Erudite Sect was forbidden to men and their protégés were priestesses of the Goddess Theocracy, a mysterious religion that was dedicated to the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Ninth Heavens. It was a secret celestial religion that most celestials would never have heard of or known.

This must be the most peaceful year that Lady Snowflake had seen in decades. It was because the rise of the Holy Ascension Sect had forced many warring celestial clans to come to a truce and to unite against a common enemy, with each celestial clan trying to preserve as much strength as possible.

She was sitting in her throne room and was scantily dressed as she said nonchalantly to her protégés, numbering a dozen. “We need the mines to be functional as quickly as possible. We do need to find as much precious metals as possible to bribe the other powerful celestial clans. Or else our mountains won’t be our mountains and our clan won’t be our clan pretty soon.”

Maiden Ziyue, a golden celestial and who was also her next successor immediately said solemnly. “The miners are working round the clock to clear the collapse mine. Precious metals and celestium rocks are really too rare. I am afraid that our mountains have already been depleted of such precious resources...”

Lady Snowflake hummed coldly, “Then so will be our clan! How do you expect me to be answerable to the past protégé mistress before me? Ziyue, you are the next Erudite Lady. You have to see the wider picture. Give the orders to double the manpower and push to clear the mines

within this week. Is that understood?”

Maiden Ziyue sighed softly, “Yes, my protégé mistress...”

“When has the Erudite Sect becomes such a pathetic clan?” A veiled maiden with a three pink petals on her forehead and carrying a white long sword had walked quietly into the hall.

She walked elegantly to them and was extremely composed. There was no doubt about it that she was extremely confident of herself!

Lady Snowflake, Maiden Ziyue and all the other protégés had suddenly turned ashen. It was because there was an intruder in the hall and yet none of them was aware of it until now!

There was no doubt that she was a highly skilled and highly attained celestial practitioner for her to mask her presence so discreetly!

Lady Snowflake managed a weak smile, “Since you have heard us, you must have overheard that we are quite poor now. May we know your clan of origin and your celestial name so that we can pay our dearest homage to you?”

The mysterious veiled maiden pondered coldly, “Who am I? Maybe that is not as important as asking who you are first?”

Lady Snowflake smiled weakly, “Since you are already here. Surely you must have already known who I am. Is there a need for me to introduce myself?”

The mysterious veiled maiden said, “I really do not know. Just who are you?”

Not only Lady Snowflake was smiling bitterly, all her protégés were also smiling bitterly.

Maiden Ziyue and all her fellow protégés had all drawn their long swords as they shouted to her, “How insolent can you be! We may be a small clan but we won’t be cowed by you! Protégé sisters, let teach her a lesson...”

But before she could finish, the mysterious veiled maiden was in front

of her, seized her long sword, given her a tight slap in a blink of an eye and had floored her to the ground!

Maiden Ziyue was dumbfounded!

Her movements were simply too astonishing!

Actually her martial skills were not weak and she was a golden celestial. Speed attacks and fast movements were not effective on a golden celestial like her. Only martial power and strength actually counts. But today, she had actually been surprised by such an astonishing speed that she could not even see or sense!

Lady Snowflake smiled bitterly, "I am Lady Snowflake. Just who are you?"

All of a sudden, she gathered her robe and said coldly. "However, this is my sacred abode and the forbidden ground of the past patriarchs of the Erudite Sect. I won't let you disturb their rest even if it cost me my life."

The mysterious veiled maiden said coldly, "Maybe on account of that, I will be lenient towards you. On your knees and bow to me."

Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue hummed coldly at the same time, "No way!"

Lady Snowflake said coldly, "We have our pride and integrity..."

The mysterious veiled maiden interrupted coldly, "From now onwards, I will take charge of here and I will be your new protégé mistress."

Lady Snowflake said aloud, "Take her out!"

Immediately, all her protégés brandished their long swords towards her!

The mysterious veiled maiden brandished her long sword! Immediately there was a thunderous shockwave that rippled throughout the entire hall as she thrust her sword into the ground!

The imploding shockwaves rippled and floored everyone to the ground with serious internal injuries!

Lady Snowflake coughed out blood as she looked at the mysterious

veiled maiden with stunned expression, “This is our Erudite Impact Technique. This is even more refine and powerful than mine. How dare you steal and learn our secret technique!”

The mysterious veiled maiden said coldly as she unveiled herself, “Look closely who I am.”

Lady Snowflake was stunned at her exquisite beauty. This maiden was indeed very beautiful and gave everyone the impression that she was an unearthly maiden. But there was something really familiar about her that she could not remember right away!

Lady Snowflake stammered out, “I don’t know you...”

The mysterious maiden interrupted, “In the secret chamber of the Erudite Sect, there is a statue...”

Lady Snowflake was startled, “No one except the protégé mistresses of the Erudite Sect is supposed to know about the secret chamber. Much less anything about anything inside and not that statue...”

All of a sudden, she had frozen into place!

It was because she had discovered that this unearthly maiden really resembled the statue in the secret chamber!

The unearthly maiden said coldly, “Very good. You seem to have recalled who I am.”

Lady Snowflake gasped, “This is impossible....Even though it is our duty as priestess to continue the practice of the Erudite Sect but....”

The unearthly maiden interrupted coldly, “You must not doubt. It is because you are the high priestess and moreover, I am now standing in front of you. I am a real Goddess and by your finite understandings, you cannot comprehend my infinite existence.”

All of a sudden, the unearthly maiden flickered and everyone felt powerless as they fell onto the ground awed by her presence!

Her aura was completely different from an Ancient Celestial!

Lady Snowflake gasped to her, “You are really...”

She quickly said panicky, ❖All Erudite protégés, quickly bow down and beg for our apologies!”

Maiden Ziyue coughed weakly, “Protégé mistress, we don’t have to be afraid of her! She is alone and when help comes, we will be able to deal with her...”

Lady Snowflake said sternly, “Shut up! Do you know who she is? How dare you be disrespectful to her! She is none other than the Goddess Celestial Alice!”

Maiden Ziyue and all the protégés stared at the unearthly maiden in disbelief. There were several mutterings, “She is really the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

Lady Snowflake had immediately fallen on her knees, “May the Eternal Goddess forgives us for our insolences! We really do not know the Eternal Goddess is coming!”

When the protégés of the Erudite Sect saw that even their protégé mistress was willing to kneel and bow in front of her, they began to panic too and did the same!

Maiden Ziyue was stammering, “May the Eternal Goddess forgives me. I really didn’t know it is you...”

The priestesses of the Erudite Sect had a belief that was different from the rest of the celestials in the Celestial Realm. They believed that the Goddess Celestial Alice was a true Immortal and that she had descended from the Immortal Realm to aid the true celestial practitioners in the past!

The Goddess Celestial Alice said nonchalantly as she threw a pouch on the ground, “Take these divine pills to treat your injuries. Not only will your injuries will be as new, your martial strength will also see a marked improvement.”

Maiden Ziyue took the pouch and looked at the contents inside. Because she knew herbalism and was well versed with the different divine pills in the Celestial Realm, one look and one sniff was enough to cause her to

gasp aloud as she wept emotionally. “This...this! Protégé mistress and everyone! These are really the Negative Core Divine Pills!”

Everyone was stunned!

One Negative Core Divine Pill was rare enough but there were now a handful in their hands! This was enough to spark a full scale celestial war in the entire Celestial Realm!

Lady Snowflake smiled, “I am sure there are many more celestial treasures that the Eternal Goddess will share with us if we are obedient.”

She paused for a while before she asked respectfully, “May we know what instructions the Eternal Goddess has for us by gracing us with your presence?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice said, “Firstly, brief me about the happenings of the Celestial Realm since the founding of the Erudite Sect. Secondly, mobilize some of your protégés to go to the Unmoving Mountains...”

The Lady Snowflake was startled as she quickly explained, “The Holy Ascension Sect now occupies the Unmoving Mountains and is a major celestial clan that is not to be trifled with. We are really going there?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice nodded slowly, “We have to. The next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary will be there.”

The Lady Snowflake and the other protégés were startled. To their knowledge, no one could predict the coming of the Stellar Sanctuary. This only convinced them that this mysterious maiden that had suddenly appeared here today was really the Goddess Celestial Alice!

They had never been to the Stellar Sanctuary and had only heard of the fabulous treasures that were in there. Their founder, the Lady Aries was an Ancient Celestial and a strong celestial in the Celestial Realm. But she had perished in the Stellar Sanctuary. From that point onward, the Erudite Sect slipped into decline and had even become a dark celestial clan.

Lady Snowflake stammered, “We are really going there? To the Stellar Sanctuary? I have heard that it is really a most dangerous place...”

The Goddess Celestial Alice said casually, “Indeed it is and the whole lot of you will surely perish in there. It is because you will be tempted to push beyond your luck. Only the caution and the skilled may survive there. But don’t you worry about that. My instructions to you will be simple. Just escort me to the Unmoving Mountains.”

Lady Snowflake asked respectfully, “Please forgive your ignorant follower. Is there a reason why the Eternal Goddess wants to go to the Stellar Sanctuary? They are all going to the Stellar Sanctuary to become an immortal being. Surely, the Eternal Goddess does not have to go there?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice muttered softly, “It is because he will be likely be there...if he is, then I just want to have a look at him...”

Lady Snowflake was stunned as she thought, “Who is he? Surely the Eternal Goddess is above all mortal emotions?”

Chapter 114: The Lord Supreme

In the Golden Ascension Hall, Lady Snowflake muttered as he looked at Yi Ping. “He is the one that the Eternal Goddess is looking for?”

Yi Ping was now standing in front of her and he was trembling, “Your name is Ziyan? I know it is you because I can never forget the expressions of your eyes. I am so glad that you manage to make it out of there. You are here for?”

From the way that Maiden Ziyan looked at Yi Ping, it may sound like a dumb question to most of Yi Ping’s consorts but that was really something that Yi Ping did not really know!

The mute Maiden Ziyan said quietly, “I am here to attend the congregation as well...”

All the other celestials were muttering among themselves; this Maiden Ziyan was not a mute! This only aroused the anger among these celestials and convinced them that the dark celestial clans could not be trusted!

There were many dark celestial clans in the silver section too but they were not siding with the Erudite Sect. It was because rivalries among the dark celestial clans were even more uncompromising and shady than with the orthodox celestial clans!

Yi Ping quickly said to her as he glanced at Lady Snowflake, “Did someone force you into the Erudite Sect? The celestials here are all masters of their clans. Obviously, your protégé mistress is risking your life so that she can fulfil her ego.”

Lady Snowflake smiled bitterly at that suggestion.

Lingfeng felt like kicking Yi Ping in his butt if she was near him. That was because it was obvious to her that this ‘Maiden Ziyan’ was the true master of the Erudite Sect!

Lie Qing thought, “Oh Ping’Er, she is not the weak vulnerable maiden that you think she is...”

Yunzi was smiling and was slightly amused.

Yi Ping added as he looked at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage, “I have seen his sword skills. He is really strong...”

Maiden Ziyan nodded but she replied coldly, “Indeed. He is really strong and I am impressed. However unless he is willing to move aside and let us have the golden seats, our duel must go on.”

She looked coldly at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage before adding more, “My precious straw hat has incalculable monetize value and he has damaged it to a state of beyond repair. This blood debt has to be paid for, am I right?”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was startled as he shouted angrily, “How dare you! You are really too insolent and disrespectful...”

All of a sudden, Maiden Ziyan had raised her unsheathed long sword and displayed an opening cut on the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage as she flashed past Yi Ping!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was not slow either as he blocked the incoming stroke with his long sword, “Don’t think because you have a divine sword in your hands, you can afford to be arrogant. Divine sword can only help so much if the opponents are equal...”

All of a sudden, Maiden Ziyan had changed her stroke to a left swing as three burst of shockwaves rippled forth, knocking the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage aside even when he had raised his sword timely to block it!

All the celestials gasped in shock; given the martial foundation of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage, he could actually be swept aside by a melee stroke!

Even Yi Ping was staring in disbelief!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was in disbelief too. He had recognized that this was the sword techniques of the Erudite Impact Techniques and had even exchanged strokes with it in the past.

However, he had never seen such martial display from a martial practitioner of the Erudite Sect!

Firstly, she had not unsheathed her long sword yet; her sword strokes and speed could be even swifter if her sword was unsheathed!

Secondly, the impacting force of the Erudite Impact Technique had only one impact since the martial power to create such the shockwave requires the entire martial strength of the technique practitioner. But she had actually displayed the Erudite Impact Technique, not once but thrice!

This surprise move was the one that had caused the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage to move back hastily!

But for an epitome exponent like him, it was still not enough to hurt him and only caused him to be wary of her future strokes!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was about to make his next move when the Immortal Saint of Swords reverberated from the golden platform, "Hold!"

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was startled, "Huh?!"

The Immortal Saint of Swords looked at Maiden Ziyan and said, "Just who are you? I have never seen you or heard of you before."

Maiden Ziyan hummed coldly, refusing to say a word!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim were also exchanging secret looks to each other.

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage interceded, "Actually the Erudite Sect has already proven to us that they are able to have a seating position at the golden section. If you can honor us with your true celestial name, you may have the seating arrangement that you want. After all, trust is very important here and this is a peaceful congregation. Unless of course, you have an agenda and represent another celestial faction to stir trouble here."

Reverend Sword Pilgrim added coldly, "There are three major celestial factions in the Celestial Realm. The Holy Ascension Sect is just one of them. The other two celestial factions are the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect. These two other celestial clans are equal in strength to the Holy Ascension Sect. But all along, we have avoided

meddling with each other's affairs. But since you are here today, we won't be merciful."

All the celestials gasped.

No wonder she was so bold!

Was it because she was from either the Martial Deviant Clan or the Celestial Aiel Sect?

The Martial Deviant Clan was a major dark celestial clan with a rigid hierarchy. The grandmaster of the Martial Deviant Clan was known as the Martial Grandmaster, his two second command was known as Right Deviant Protector and the Left Deviant Protection. Below the Deviant Protectors were the Five Deviant Masters; Gold Deviant Master, Wood Deviant Master, Water Deviant Master, Fire Deviant Master and the Earth Deviant Master.

The Celestial Aiel Sect on the other hand was also a major dark celestial clan known for its deadly use of poisons for controlling the weaker clans under its sphere of influence. It was led by the Celestial Mistress and three Celestial Priestesses. The sect however was not forbidden to men.

Many of the celestial practitioners were all thinking at the same time, "Is she one of the three mysterious Celestial Priestesses from the Celestial Aiel Sect? She has taken some kind of a drug therefore she is able to suppress her aura? Only the Celestial Aiel Sect has that kind of wonder drugs to be able to do so..."

But Maiden Ziyang laughed softly, "The Martial Deviant Clan? The Celestial Aiel Sect? Definitely not!"

Yi Ping quickly added, "That is right. I can vouch for her!"

Reverend Sword Pilgrim hummed coldly, "Who knows if you are in league with her? From the looks of it, it certainly looks like it!"

The Ascension Goddess interrupted with a wryly smile, "At least she is not three months ago. This I can vouch for her."

Lele said mockingly, “Fancy so many of you trying to bully a single maiden and parading the rest of us in the middle of the hall as though we are criminals.”

When the Deadly Wanderer heard her, he muttered. “Criminals? Definitely not. Such a beautiful view...”

And there were many celestials that shared his views too!

Reverend Sword Pilgrim turned to ask Maiden Ziyan, “At least you should unveil yourself and make a formal introduction to us. Or else, we will surely view you with suspicious!”

Maiden Ziyan nodded as she lowered her sword...

Many of the celestials were secretly excited.

It was because they were curious what she looked like. From her enticing pose and delicate features, they wondered if she was as beautiful as the heavenly maidens that were standing in the middle of the hall.

However, there were also many celestials that were secretly anxious and wary of her secret agenda; they could tell that she was concealing her true martial level and the divine sword that was in her hands was like a shining beacon that was constantly tempting them!

That was not all.

None of them could gauge her true state of divinity!

That was the most anxious thing in their minds!

That someone could conceal their own state of divinity from the eyes of these super celestials were something extraordinary and deserved a special attention!

Maiden Ziyan threw her outer robe aside, revealing a short translucent black garment with strange circular insignia underneath!

Even though the translucent black garment was extremely revealing and showing her curves, it discreetly covered her modesty too.

But it was too revealing and left nothing to the imagination for many of

the celestials who were all ogling at her keenly!

Even without revealing her face, her stunning beauty stood her up among the many beauties in the middle of the hall.

The Universal Old Man was grinning to himself while Yi Ping became flustered and quite a number of celestials were gasping breathlessly.

The many extraordinary beauties that had suddenly appeared in the hall were enough to rouse many of the highly attained celestials from their meditations. And when the Goddess Celestial Alice removed her robe, many of the celestials were no longer able to remain still!

All of a sudden, there were loud rumblings throughout the Golden Ascension Hall!

It was because many of the celestials had recognized that she was wearing the Celestium Silk, an extremely rare celestial artifact!

One celestial shouted aloud, "She is wearing the Celestium Silk!"

"Celestium Silk. Divine swords. Who are these people?" These were the questions that had popped in the minds of the celestials that were presented in the Holy Ascension Hall!

No other clans in the Celestial Realms had such an arsenal of divine swords as belonged to Yi Ping's group. And the Tranquil City was just a newly formed clan! The Ascension Goddess was known to many of the celestials presented but why was she in the company of the Tranquil City? And who and what was the background of the young man with the righteous air that appeared to be their leader?

The Immortal Saint of Swords was thinking, "That Yi Ping. An insignificant lowly celestial practitioner. He is now a Golden Celestial? That's impossible. It is only six months since we had last fought. Who he is really that even the Celestial Alice picked him as her master?"

As for the Erudite Sect, it was only a small dark celestial clan yet it had dared to so much as to demand an outrageous seating position in the golden section! Outrageous was one thing. Challenging the entire cohort of celestials in order to win the golden seating position was an entire

different matter!

In the entire Celestial Realm, which clan would be so insane to do that? If that particular clan was able to do so or had the strength to fight with a major celestial clan, surely they would be able to sit at the golden section and did not have to fight for their places!

Maiden Ziyan sighed softly as she unveiled herself slowly with her right fingers, "Just who am I?"

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly, "You are a nothing but a witch and only a witch dressed like you do! I am the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. Maiden, do you dare to accept my challenge?"

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was brimming with rage. It was because he had lost much face in front of the other celestials and was afraid that he may be accused that he could not even handle a young maiden! He did not really care who she was. It was because with his epitome sword skills and mastery in the Six Negative Ley Infinitude Sword Energies, she meant nothing in his eyes!

Yixian the Celestial Fairy immediately cautioned to Maiden Ziyan, "Be careful. He is not an easy opponent to be taken lightly."

Maiden Ziyan had loosened her veil and everyone could see her face clearly.

This immediately invited several gasping outbursts from many of the celestials and raised their eyebrows; it was because she was simply too stunning and the flicker of her eyes were so mesmerizing! Her intricate eyes and delicate facial features were really extremely captivating!

Many of the celestials in the Holy Ascension Hall had fought with the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect over the years. They looked at each other and were waiting for someone to recognize her but apparently none was able to do so!

In the end, they really did not know who she was!

But Maiden Ziyan seemed to have guessed their thoughts as she smiled

casually, “I am the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos...”

Immediately, there were a thunderous outburst from the entire hall and the ruckus was so noisy that all the celestials were shouting ceaselessly!

Even the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had turned ashen at the announcement!

Lady Snowflake was startled as she looked at her protégés as she thought, “Isn’t she the Goddess Celestial Alice? Why is she proclaiming herself as the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?”

Yi Ping said aloud when he saw the disbelief in everyone’s eyes, “That’s right. She is indeed the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos!”

Lie Qing could only smile bitterly as she thought, “She may have fooled Yi Ping and the rest but certainly not me. But I don’t have the proof to refute her...”

Lingfeng the Heaviness also doubted about her claims, “She is really the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos? If she is, will she go around telling everyone she is? Does she know that all these celestials are storming the Stellar Sanctuary in search of the Immortal Practice of the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos? Will the intellect of the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos be so imbecile as to declare such or is it because a Supreme Being cannot lie?”

Actually Yixian, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Shen Xingyue, Youxue, Yunzi, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Ascension Goddess and the rest of the maidens were not dumb too. If they were then it would not be possible for them to reach their present level of enlightenment. Back in the Stellar Astronomic Formation, this ‘Maiden Ziyan’ had convinced them that she was the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos but this was not the Stellar Astronomic Formation!

To declare that she was the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos to these celestials were like delivering herself to these hungry devouring wolves that would not even spit out the bones!

Yi Ping was startled by the gasps of disbeliefs and mutterings that he

said aloud to convince everyone, “She is really the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos! I have seen her in the Stellar Astronomic Formation!”

Maiden Ziyan smiled softly, feeling amused as she winked at him.
“Thank you!”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage cried aloud, “What?! You have been to the Stellar Astronomic Formation? Don’t lie to me, young man!”

Yi Ping replied calmly, “That is right. I have seen her in the epicenter of the Stellar Astronomic Formation. She is the mistress of the Stellar Astronomic Formation.”

Hundreds of celestials were gasping at this piece of startling information!

But Lingfeng had a giddy headache as she almost exploded with anger as she thought miserly, “Yi Ping! Why are you dumb! I hate you!” She really felt like kicking him hard. It was because instead of helping Maiden Ziyan, he was only fanning the fire bigger!

Yu’Er and Mei’Er both had a stunned expression on them...

Even Lele who was often acting dumb most of the time so that she could play the other maidens into her weaving hands almost fainted on the spot when Yi Ping moved to defend ‘Maiden Ziyan’; she was really impressed that this ‘Maiden Ziyan’ could actually still say thank you to Yi Ping and remained so composed!

She thought, “If her gentle disposition is real, then she is going to be a dangerous rival. But I believe that she is only playacting. The only person with real gentle disposition is Sister Yixian and she doesn’t like to play mind games with us and leave us on our own.”

So she smiled to Maiden Ziyan, intending to cause some troubles for her, “My dear protégé mistress. If you want to fight this old man, your protégé here will be glad to lend you a helping hand!”

Yixian muttered softly with a gentle sigh, “Lele, you...”

Immediately, the celestials were shouting at the same time, trying to

drown out each other with their analysis of the situation!

“So they are in league with each other!”

“I know it!”

“So the Tranquil City is the real mastermind behind the Erudite Sect!”

“Stop interrupting. She is really the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was the most startled. It was because he had just issued a challenge to the ‘Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos’!

He had suddenly realized that Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, Reverend Sword Pilgrim and the rest of the celestials had discreetly moved to the side, literally telling him that he was on his own!

One celestial practitioner had even bowed with his hands to say before he moved up to the platform, “I admit that I am not on the same competency level as the Vengeful God Shuntian. Therefore I am withdrawing myself from the challenge and let the more powerful celestials to judge your clan qualifications instead.”

The same celestial smiled at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage before he went quietly back to the golden section but at the same time, he was also looking at Maiden Ziyan, Yixian, Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue, Youxue, the Ascension Goddess and the other maidens keenly.

He was one of the masters of the Wind Chimes Sect and was known as Ouyang Feipeng the Windy Blade. Maybe his martial skills were not as profound as the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage but to admit that his own skills were not as competent as the Vengeful God Shuntian was really an understatement!

Beside the newly seven most powerful celestial fighters name list, there was also the hundred celestial fighters name list and Ouyang Feipeng was actually on this name list!

Maiden Ziyan looked at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage as she said casually, “The will of the practitioners of the sword must be resolute in order to be in unison with the sword. But there is now doubt in your heart

and your will is faltering. How do you rate your chance against me?”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage secretly used his Great Whispering Skill to the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage, “Don’t fall into her ruse.”

The Immortal Saint of Swords willed through his sword auras from the golden platform, “She is just trying to shake your resolve. The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos has long ascended to the Immortal Realm. I doubt anyone can validate her claims.”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage nodded as he quickly regained his composure, laughing aloofly again. “So maiden, do you dare to accept my challenge?”

Yi Ping was concerned that Maiden Ziyan had not recovered from her internal injuries so he said hurriedly, “Let me take your place in your stead instead.”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said coldly, “I have not settled my score with you for stealing the divine swords of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan.”

Yi Ping replied coldly as he unsheathed the Celestial Alice, revealing a bright rainbow halo that immediately brightened his surroundings, “Come get it if you are able to!”

If Yi Ping had not drawn out his divine sword then it would be good. But the instant the brilliant blade of the Celestial Alice was unsheathed, some of the celestials had immediately turned ashen! It was because they had recognized that the divine sword that was in Yi Ping’s hands was not an ordinary divine sword!

Yi Ping himself was a little startled. It was because the rainbow halo only appeared when he had split the Celestial Alice into the Celestial Anonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice. In fact, the rainbow halo was brilliant and the divine sword was reverberating spiritedly!

Maiden Ziyan smiled at him, “You seem to be getting pretty well with the Celestial Alice.”

Yi Ping began to fluster and was momentarily startled at her praise.

He only recovered from his surprise when Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing had stepped forward beside him and exclaiming aloud, “We have not settled our scores with you too!”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage shouted, “Good! Let’s us settle our scores first!” He had raised his sword fingers and had displayed his fingers in quick successive, sending bursts of sword energies toward Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue, Lie Qing and at Maiden Ziyan. “Ley Negative Sword First Stroke!”

Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing had immediately raised their divine swords to parry the sword bursts aside as they took evasive action at the same time while Yi Ping had displayed the Ultrapowerful Force with the Celestial Alice as he dissipated the incoming sword energies into nothingness!

Because Yi Ping was standing in front of her and was shielding her, the sword bursts were not able to target her therefore she did not have to act.

After dissipating the sword energies, Yi Ping had immediately leapt forward towards the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage who had immediately drawn out his three swords in quick succession, sending all three swords flying towards Yi Ping!

As Yi Ping raised his divine sword to block the first sword, he was seized by a tremendous force that sent him tumbling backward!

He was startled and quickly exercised his entire martial strength just in time to block the second flying sword aside even as he exclaimed softly, “So strong!”

Once again, he was seized by a tremendous force and this time, he was forced to move several steps behind with the third flying sword homing on him!

Fortunately, Maiden Ziyan caught him by his shoulder and deflected the third flying sword aside!

But the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was not about to be released from his vent up furies as he willed his first and second sword back at Yi Ping

again but this time, it was deflected by Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing who had sped next to Yi Ping at the same time!

The sword fingers of Yi Ping, Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing were all trembling slightly!

They were astonished at the martial strength of the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage!

Shen Xingyue thought, "No wonder the Sword Sages rarely use their swords anymore. It is because against most opponents, it will be an overkill..."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was slightly taken aback that Yi Ping could actually withstand two of his flying swords and had not suffered any internal injuries.

Suddenly he had noticed that Yi Ping's sword hands were glowing red. "What is that?"

Yi Ping was alarmed when he had noticed that his hands had turned red as he felt a painful burning sensation that was threatening to overwhelm him!

All his consorts were alarmed!

Shen Xingyue asked panicky, "Ping'Er, are you alright?"

Lie Qing gasped, "Ping'Er, even your arms and neck have turned red!"

All of a sudden, Maiden Ziyan had quietly struck him at his rib accupoint from the back as she whispered silently to his ears with her Great Whispering Skill. "Do not fear. This is just the blood of the Kirin that is at work here. While it is able to give you immense martial strength but over exerting yourself may trouble you with some side effects."

She paused briefly before continuing, "Clear your thoughts and focus your mind first. I am going to merge the blood of the Kirin into your vital energy channels. Then you will be one with the blood of the Kirin."

As she said that, Yi Ping could feel a soothing powerful infusion of

internal strength rippling throughout his body. All of a sudden, the heat that he had felt earlier had all but dissipated and even the redness that was visible earlier was all gone!

Maiden Ziyan whispered to him, "It is done."

Yi Ping was startled, "It is done? So fast!"

Maiden Ziyan smiled weakly, "Even though it is fast, I have expended a great deal of internal strength for you. You...you must be grateful to me in future!"

Yi Ping turned and looked quickly at her. When he saw that she had broken into beads of perspirations, he was immediately guilty and was extremely appreciative of her. So he nodded and said earnestly, "Thank you..."

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage and all the others were startled. Yi Ping had turned red a moment ago and in just a blink of an eye, he had returned to normal again!

All the celestials were startled that this Maiden Ziyan could actually treat someone via her internal strength in such a casual manner while in such a tense situation. Moreover, Yi Ping was fully clothed and it was really dangerous to do so in such a situation for both parties! Even the most confident internal arts practitioner would never dare to transfer or transfuse their internal strength to another if there were any obstructions!

Maiden Ziyan whispered to Yi Ping, "That is alright. Now I will need to recuperate for a while. Do you think you can protect me for a while I take a short rest?"

Yi Ping nodded silently as he stared coldly at the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage.

He sighed softly as he grasped the Celestial Alice tightly, "Qing'Er, Xing'Er. Let me take him first. Or else, he will surely accuse us of ganging up against him."

He had noticed that Shen Xingyue and Lie Qing fingers were still

trembling and they had not recovered from the aftershocks of the initial attacks.

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "I am really alright. He is a senior. Surely he won't accuse us of ganging up against him."

Lie Qing laughed softly, "That is right! Three versus one. That is really fair in my view!"

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage said aloud, "My fellow celestial practitioners. You have heard them? One claims to be the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos while this Yi Ping is obviously siding with her. Aren't their ill-intentions obvious already? If we are still blind to the obvious then we will have enemies within us soon, enemies that will destroy us and disrupt our positions in the Celestial Realm!"

"She is indeed not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos!" A thunderous voice reverberated and shook the entire Golden Ascension Hall!

Everyone turned towards the entrance and they could see a sagely old man with white robe standing there. The flicker in his golden eyes marked him as an Ancient Celestial. His presence was exceedingly commanding and caused many of the celestials to be in awe of him!

Even though, not many of the celestials in the Golden Ascension Hall could recognize him but judging by the respectful look of the Ascendant protégés and from the high level celestials, most of the celestials were able to guess that he was none other than the Lord Supreme of the Holy Ascension Sect, the grand patriarch of the Holy Ascension Sect!

The Lord Supreme was the founder of the Ascension Sect and was the first protégé master. All in all till now, the Ascension Sect had a total of three protégé masters. But when the third protégé master, Grandmaster White Crane was killed in the Stellar Sanctuary, the Lord Supreme had made his return from his solitary retreat and assumed the leadership of the Ascension Sect once more and even renaming the Ascension Sect as the Holy Ascension Sect.

All the celestials had all rose to their feet to welcome him!

Yu'Er and Mei'Er secretly exchanged hush glances...

The Ascension Goddess immediately whispered solemnly to Yi Ping with the Great Whispering Skill, "My dearest. You have to be respectful to him. He is none other than the Lord Supreme, the grand patriarch of the Holy Ascension Sect! Don't you even entertain any wishful thoughts that you can get away after provoking him..."

She took a look at the communicative facial expressions of Lingfeng as she quickly added for her, "Never mind, just be quiet!"

Lingfeng nodded at the Ascension Goddess with an appreciative smile for helping her to sum up her thoughts!

Both Lingfeng and the Ascension Goddess were really afraid of what actions the Lord Supreme may take!

Lingfeng had naturally recognized the Lord Supreme. It was because they had fought once too many times in the Stellar Sanctuary and their grudges ran deep; he was not someone that she wanted to meet.

The Universal Old Man was cursing, "Why isn't he dead yet..."

At the same time, the Lord Supreme had also caught sight of the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man; there was a flash of malevolent air in his eyes!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage bowed with his hands, "My humble respects to the Lord Supreme. The Erudite Sect has dared to claim a seating position in the golden section and this maiden here has even dare to claim to be the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. Therefore, I have the intention to teach these juniors some manners..."

The Lord Supreme gazed at Maiden Ziyan piercingly but she did not even flinch and had even looked back at him with a sweet smile!

Finally he said, "Why is that I found you so familiar? Have we met before?"

Maiden Ziyan laughed softly, "You must be teasing me, am I right? Is that your way to know a maiden name? But you are so old. I prefer

someone who looks younger.”

Lele and Lie Qing were giggling softly when they had heard that.

But the rest of the celestials dare not find it funny or dare to mock the Lord Supreme!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage shouted, “How dare you shown such contempt for the Lord Supreme!” As he said that, he had already sped past Yi Ping as he delivered dozens of shadowy blows on Yi Ping and Maiden Ziyan at the same time!

Yi Ping was startled as he retaliated with the Divine Horizon Hands but in a blink of an eye, he was being swept aside!

But at the same time, Maiden Ziyan had also swept Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage aside with a single sword stroke; she had finally unsheathed her divine sword, revealing a white gold long sword patterned with intricate designs of seven Golden Kirins along its white blade!

The Goddess Celestial Alice moaned in her heart, “He can actually force me to draw my sword. Did I sleep for too long or these celestials have improved so much since then?”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was a Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect therefore he too possessed a divine sword as he called out, “Green Dragon Sacred Sword!”

Immediately a green flash of light exploded in front of him with rippling martial force in all directions and a beautiful green adorned dragon hilt long sword was in front of Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage!

The Goddess Celestial Alice laughed softly, “This is going to be interesting. Yi Ping, move aside first.”

She had stepped forward with a forward sword stance as seven bright lights glowed from the eyes of the Golden Kirins along the blade of her sword, “This is my divine sword, the Astronomic Eulogy. There are seven seals on it. You are certainly qualified to fight with me but I wonder if you are able to force me to break the seals of my divine sword and to what extend?”

Her eyes had flickered and in that instant, her level of divinity seemed to have surged to an unbelievable level!

Immediately, all the celestial onlookers were startled at her level of divinity and at the divine sword that was in her hands!

The Immortal Saint of Swords and the Lord Supreme had both gasped out at the same time, “This! This is impossible. This is the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars!?”

Shen Xingyue was startled as she quickly said to the Ascension Goddess while looking at Lie Qing, “Do you see what I see? The darkness has swallowed her. It is the divine sword that is in control of her now...”

The Ascension Goddess looked at her Despairing Heaven and looked at the Perpetual Darkness that was in Lie Qing’s hand, “That’s right. We must stop her. She has already been consumed by the darkness of her divine sword...”

Chapter 115: The Holy Ascension Sect

As the Goddess Celestial Alice raised the Astronomic Eulogy, bursting martial windforce began to whirl all around her!

She muttered softly to Shen Xingyue, Lie Qing and the Ascension Goddess, "I am using my Divine Whisperer Skill. Therefore only you can hear me. Don't worry about me. The state of surging divinity that you saw is actually my true state of divinity and not the Astronomic Eulogy..."

Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess heaved a soft sigh of relief. It was because if the divine sword gained control of the practitioner, then she would not stop until everyone or she was dead!

Lie Qing looked at her curiously, "Why does she have to insist that she is the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos? She is not. Has something in the past, something that she can't get over it? She can't fight everyone..."

At the same time, dozens of brilliant beams of light flashed across the Golden Ascension Hall as dozens of celestial practitioners began to arm themselves with their divine swords and other potent weapons!

The Lord Supreme asked solemnly, "How did you get the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars?!"

Even Yu'Er and Mei'Er were both gasping, "The true name of the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars is actually the Astronomic Eulogy?"

The Goddess Celestial Alice replied coolly to the Lord Supreme, "She has always been with me. What do you mean by how did I get the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars?"

The Lord Supreme asked solemnly, "Then you are the..."

Yu'Er added, "Then you are not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. You are the..."

Mei'Er continued, "...the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

The Goddess Celestial Alice raised her delicate eyebrows.

Yu'Er muttered softly, "There is an old legend. The wielder of the Sacred

Sword of the Seven Stars is the Goddess Celestial Alice. And..."

Mei'Er continued, "...in the lower realm, there are numerous underground remnants that are dedicated to the Goddess Celestial Alice. These remnants are extremely ancient and even more ancient than the Ancient Celestials. The Divine Unison Rhapsody, the secret sword practice of the Supreme Celestials of the Ascension Sect is found in one of the ancient remnants."

The Lord Supreme looked at the Goddess Celestial Alice as he thought secretly, "No wonder she looks familiar. A long time ago, I have seen her monument statuette in the lower realm..."

The Immortal Saint of Swords looked quietly at Lady Snowflake from the golden platform as he thought, "The protégés of the Erudite Sect are priestesses of the Goddess Theocracy dedicated to the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Ninth Heavens. The Goddess Theocracy is a belief that the Goddess Celestial Alice is the true immortal. But that is only a myth among the Ancient Celestials..."

Yi Ping was startled as he muttered, "More ancient than even the Ancient Celestials?! Is that possible?"

Yi Ping continued to mutter as he looked at his divine sword silently, "Who is she? She is not the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos? My divine sword is named the Celestial Alice...it carries her name?"

Hundreds of celestials had suddenly become very tense as they shared Yi Ping's thoughts! The Golden Ascension Hall was in an uproar!

"The Goddess Celestial Alice?!"

"Who is the Goddess Celestial Alice? I have never heard of her..."

"That is a long time ago, a legend..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice was thinking, "It will be terrible if these celestials are able to recognize me..."

She took a quick look at Yi Ping as she tried to think of a way out of her predicament.

When she saw that Yi Ping and his group were offered the golden seating position, she was overcome with envy and wanted to sit as near to him as possible. And when these celestials had tried to provoke her and had shown disrespect to her, she had retaliated and unsheathed her divine sword!

She did not expect that some of these celestials were still able to recognize her divine sword and through it, her celestial name!

Lady Snowflake laughed all of a sudden, “You say that my protégé is the Goddess Celestial Alice? Based on what? Based on a sword that I lend my protégé? Why don’t you conclude that I am the Goddess Celestial Alice instead? And Ziyan is not any Dark Lord of Chaos Cosmos. Don’t you all have any sense of humor?”

She paused for a while before she issued sternly to the Goddess Celestial Alice, “Ziyan! That is enough already. Quickly retract your sword. We are not here to fight. Or else...”

She smiled at the Lord Supreme, “Or else if we provoke the Lord Supreme, our small clan will not exist tomorrow.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice nodded and bowed respectfully as she quickly sheathed the Astronomic Eulogy into her scabbard, answering regretfully to Lady Snowflake, “Yes, High Priestess. I apologize for my actions. This is the first time that I am using the Astronomic Eulogy and I am afraid that the divine sword has gained the better of me for a while. I am just too inexperienced to wield the divine sword of the Erudite Sect.”

She had secretly thought, “I have just expended a great deal of my internal strength for him. This is not the right time to let pride be my controller...”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage thought bitterly, “My foot! She is just a protégé?! Her level of divinity is on par with me. An ordinary celestial will never be able to force my hand, force me to use the Green Dragon Sacred Sword...”

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was also thinking the same, “Rubbish! The Erudite Sect has a divine sword? Why is that I have never heard

anything about it until today. She obviously knows that she can't handle all of us and therefore is having second thoughts now!"

Yu'Er took a quiet look at the Lord Supreme before she asked, "Why don't everyone sit down and be comfortable first?"

To the utter surprise of everyone, the Lord Supreme seemed to agree with that suggestion as he said coldly, "Back! Everyone back to their seats. No matter what agendas the Tranquil City and the Erudite Sect have, it can't threaten the Holy Ascension Sect. If they are not enemies then they can certainly sit down with us."

Lady Snowflake smiled weakly, "We are definitely not enemies and are on your side naturally. After all, we are just a small clan only and will not dare to do otherwise."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage had immediately withdrawn their swords when they had heard the Lord Supreme.

However Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage stared coldly at Lady Snowflake and the Goddess Celestial Alice, "I will be watching all your little moves!"

Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly as well!

The Goddess Celestial Alice fingered the Astronomic Eulogy while she stole a glance at Lady Snowflake. She was trembling lightly and was resisting the attempt to draw her divine sword once again.

Lady Snowflake laughed softly, "That's right. Let's us all sit down quietly first and cool down first."

The last sentence was actually meant for the Goddess Celestial Alice!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said, "Since you know this Yi Ping, you can all sit with them in the golden section."

Lady Snowflake laughed softly, "Why, thank you."

She turned and said sternly to her protégés, "Follow me!"

The Goddess Celestial Alice looked at Yi Ping shyly, "Let's go!"

Yi Ping was about to follow her when he had noticed that the Ascension Goddess, Shen Xingyue, Yu'Er and Mei'Er did not move from their positions!

The Ascension Goddess said quietly, "My respects to the Lord Supreme. I have returned..."

Yu'Er waved at the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue, "These are my friends. This is the Dark Enchantress. She is now the Fiery Phoenix. She is also a Supreme Celestial of the Ascension Sect."

The Lord Supreme looked coldly at the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue, "My Ascension Goddess, I have heard of your transgressions and of your betrayals. You have disappointed me. I have put great faith in you and that is why I have gifted you the Celestium Silk. But..."

He looked coldly at Yi Ping, "But you have chosen to betray me because of a stranger? Among all my aides, you are the most obedient and have never questioned my commands. Therefore I have placed my trust in you and have great faith in you. You have really disappointed me with your actions."

The Ascension Goddess was silent.

The Lord Supreme looked at Shen Xingyue, "That is the divine sword of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. The Blue Heavens does not belong to the Holy Ascension Sect. You have lost your Perpetual Darkness to other. What if I ask you to return the Blue Heavens to the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan?"

Shen Xingyue laughed softly, "I refuse! Moreover, they have willingly conceded the Blue Heavens to me six months ago. I am sure the Immortal Saint of Swords will honor his pledge, am I right to say so?"

The Immortal Saint of Swords kept quiet while the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage hummed coldly.

The Lord Supreme said coldly, "As a Ascendant, you dare to disobey my commands and forsake your ascendant oaths?"

Shen Xingyue sighed as she replied softly, "I dare not..."

Yu'Er gazed coldly at the Lord Supreme as she repeated, "These are my friends. They have done nothing wrong."

Mei'Er nodded and added, "They are all my sisters too."

Shen Xingyue was startled, "Yu'Er, Mei'Er. Do you know what you are doing?"

The Ascension Goddess smiled bitterly, "Be careful, Yu'Er. No one can dictate the Lord Supreme once he has decided on a course of action..."

Yu'Er replied with a faint smile, "That's alright. Mei'Er, follow me."

Mei'Er responded with a light nod.

To the astonishment of everyone, Yu'Er and Mei'Er had followed the Lord Supreme to his throne seat as they stood beside him; the Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim were also beside them!

Yi Ping was startled as he called out, "Yu'Er! Mei'Er! What are you doing?! Come back!"

As he was about to rush forward, Yixian said gently. "Wait Ping'Er! Wait and observe."

Lingfeng said, "Let wait first. It doesn't seem that Yu'Er and Mei'Er are in danger..."

Yu'Er soon reverberated herself throughout the Golden Ascension Hall, "I am the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and this is my sister, the Axis Heaven Goddess!"

Barely had the celestials calm themselves down, this announcement shook the entire Golden Ascension Hall and the many celestial practitioners were taken by surprise again!

It was because there were few golden celestial practitioners that had never heard of the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess! It was no wonder the Lord Supreme was not upset with these two beautiful maidens in black translucent velvet dress!

Immediately, the entire hall broke into loud commotions again!

“It is really the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess?”

“I have heard that they are unable to ascend as they have broken their divine swords...”

“They have finally ascended?”

“I have heard that the Eclipse and the Axis Heaven Goddess have a special position within the Ascension Sect...”

Yixian muttered, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er...”

Yi Ping was also muttering, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er. Why are you there?”

Yunzi said, “Ping’Er, you have to trust them.”

Youxue said coldly as she lifted her mesmerizing eyes, “I remember that they have said that they will a plan when we are here. So that is their plan? To join the enemy?”

Yi Ping muttered, “That is the plan? I don’t get it...”

Lele pondered mischievously, “Hah! That is a good plan. If they join with the enemies, then naturally the enemies will be their friends! Do you think it will be alright if we swear fealty to the Holy Ascension Sect too?”

Lie Qing groaned, “Lele! This is not the time to joke...”

Lele protested unhappily, “It is Joyful Goddess! These celestials here have sharp ears. You are not supposed to let them know my name!”

Indeed, she was right.

Since they had seated themselves at the golden section, hundreds of celestials were secretly looking in their way and were all paying attention at their every single move!

Ouyang Feipeng the Windy Blade waved his fan as he smiled at Lele. He was seated near them, separated only by a stair that acted as barricade.

Lele said coldly, “Aren’t you shameless? I am the consort of Yi Ping and am happily married to him. So don’t you look at me in this vile manner!”

Ouyang Feipeng was startled. He was a renowned as a dashing celestial and was greatly admired by many of the celestial maidens. Even if a

maiden had shown no interest in him, it was unlikely that she would rebuke him so harshly in front of so many!

This caused him to be embarrassed and he was smiling weakly.

But he was secretly thinking, "Since this maiden here is a consort of this Yi Ping, so does this means that the other maidens here are unattached?"

He secretly looked at Yunzi, Youxue, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lie Qing and others as he thought happily. "Oh well. Except for the Ascension Goddess and that Maiden Ziyang, I guess I shouldn't have a problem handling them..."

It was not that he was not interested in the Ascension Goddess and Maiden Ziyang. It was because he was afraid that they may be too much for him to handle and he would be in a bad receiving end!

Lele was rebuking the other celestials as well, "What are you all looking at?"

Immediately, many of the celestials became flustered and had averted their eyes!

In the meantime, the Stellar Heaven Fairy was muttering, "This is the Golden Ascension Hall? I have only heard of this place but have never been here..."

Shen Xingyue was also thinking, "For many years, I have dreamed that I will be able to step into the Golden Ascension Hall of the Ascension Clan one day. Today I have finally realized my dreams but why is that I am feeling nothing now?"

The Goddess Celestial Alice handed over the Astronomic Eulogy to Lady Snowflake as she looked at Yi Ping secretly before she closed her eyes to meditate. She had expended a great deal of her internal strength for Yi Ping and needed rest.

As Lady Snowflake received the Astronomic Eulogy, she was trembling lightly as she thought. "This is the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars and it is in my hands now..."

She had never expected that she would be holding a divine sword of such a divine caliber in her hands one day!

She had a sudden thought as she looked at the meditating Goddess Celestial Alice, “Is this the legendary divine sword of the Goddess Celestial Alice, the Celestial Alice? According to the Thousand Memories Sacrosanct, it is said that the Celestial Alice Divine Sword is the only thing under the heavens that can control the Goddess Celestial Alice and revealed the secrets of heavens. If this divine sword is really the Celestial Alice, does it mean that I can use it to control the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

Her eyes beamed, “Then I will be the most powerful celestial in the entire Celestial Realm...”

Her thoughts were soon interrupted by the thunderous voice of the Lord Supreme as the entire Golden Ascension Hall resounded loudly, “You must all be wondering why the Holy Ascension Sect is holding such a congregation. A gathering of such magnitude has never been held before in the entire Celestial Realm. Hundreds of celestial clans, thousands of you now stand in this place!”

The Lord Supreme continued solemnly, “As all of you are aware, the Ancient Celestials are the first generation celestial practitioners to have ascended the Celestial Realm. There used to be thousands of us...”

He looked at the Immortal Saint of Swords, the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness with a soft sigh, “Time passed. There are not many of us that are left now. Most are killed by their divine tribulations or in the Stellar Sanctuary. The few of us that are left now are the most powerful of the Ancient Celestials and the last of the Ancient Celestials, having survived numerous cycles of divine tribulations or the death traps that are in the Stellar Sanctuary.”

He looked up melancholy, “Why the Stellar Sanctuary? Most of you have come to the Celestial Realm when most of the Ancient Celestials are no longer here. All of you must have already know why the Ancient Celestials are obsessed with the Stellar Sanctuary and why countless

number of second generation celestial practitioners are the same.”

Yi Ping was thinking, “Why? Because they want to be immortal practitioners?”

The Universal Old Man sighed softly as he muttered, “The last tribulation of the celestial practitioners is the Heavenly Wrath. Without the artifacts that are inside the Stellar Sanctuary to aid them, very few celestials are able to survive their first Heavenly Wrath. We are like moths that are drawn to the fire...”

Lingfeng muttered softly, “The three major tribulations of the celestial practitioners...the Divine Calamity, the Divine Wrath and the Heavenly Wrath...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was trembling as she recalled her Divine Calamity before she ascended to the Celestial Realm.

She said quietly, “Every one hundred years, we have to suffer the divine retributive fire from the heavens above. Failure to overcome it will turn us to ashes...that is our divine tribulations...”

The Ascension Goddess recalled her first Divine Wrath that she had in the Celestial Realm, “The cleansing fire of the divine tribulations will only get stronger each time and tested the celestial practitioner to the limit. Therefore, the celestial practitioner has to better themselves or be consumed by the Divine Tribulations. However, that is not really an easy thing to do and to overcome...even with the aid of the Celestium Silk and my divine sword. Sixty percent of the celestial practitioners are not able to survive their first Divine Wrath.”

Lingfeng said quietly to her group using her Divine Whisper, “Ninety percent of the first generation celestial practitioners can’t survive their first Divine Tribulation in the Celestial Realm. Because the second generation celestial practitioners have to face the Divine Calamities in the lower realm and are better prepared than the first generation celestials, they have a better survival rate than the first generation celestial practitioners. Celestial practitioners in the Celestial Realm must face the Divine Wrath nine times before they can attain the

indestructible soul stage. Then they can consider as one with the Ancient Celestials. Even the oldest second generation celestials have not gone through more than five Divine Wrath cycles...”

The Goddess Celestial Alice had heard her as she discreetly whispered to her ears only, “And even the oldest first generation celestials have not gone through more than five Heavenly Wrath too. It seems that the limits for the Ancient Celestials are the Sixth Heavenly Wrath Tribulation.”

When Lingfeng had heard that, she was secretly startled and looked at meditating ‘Maiden Ziyan’ who had her eyes closed!

All of a sudden, she had a thought. “What if someone manage to overcome the Ninth Heavenly Wrath? What happens afterward?”

One Divine Wrath and Heavenly Wrath Tribulation was a hundred years in the Celestial Realm or a thousand years in the lower realm!

Shen Xingyue was also thinking quietly as she looked at Yi Ping with a soft sigh, “Ping’Er...but you are not him...he is the only person that I know that has an easier time in overcoming the Divine Calamities than any of us. In fact, it seems very apparent to all of us at that time that he would surely overcome all the tribulations and reached the Celestial Realm. But are you him? Till now, all the divine calamities that you have encountered are shared with us. But what if you are to overcome your own divine calamity alone? What if it is the same, then are you really him?”

Her eyes were beaming with fears, “That auspicious rainbow that we saw in the Astronomic Stellar Formation is the same one that I saw when I met him again when he had just overcome his Divine Calamity and had become a celestial practitioner. Given the divine enlightenment of the Heavenness, the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess it is possible that they have already attained the indestructible soul stage and can be reborn. But he has not...”

Yunzi and Youxue had suddenly noticed that Shen Xingyue was melancholy. But they did not dare to ask her. They guessed that Shen Xingyue and Ye Yin must have mixed feelings when they had set foot here; it was because they were the Supreme Celestials of the Holy

Ascension Sect and they had pledged themselves to the Ascendant Fire, the divine symbol of the Ascension Sect!

Yi Ping had a sudden thought so he whispered to Lingfeng, "But at the Astronomic Stellar Formation, we have faced the Heavenly Wrath and have almost lost our lives. Because we have faced the Heavenly Wrath and have survived, are we considered to be Ancient Celestials now?"

Lele laughed softly, "You think too simple. You didn't listen properly. We have to survive nine Divine Wraths in order to awaken as an Ancient Celestial. These nine Divine Wraths get increasing more powerful each time..."

Lingfeng used her Divine Whisper as she did a rapid calculation with her fingers, "I have recalculated many times. That is when you are wrong, Lele. The moment that you have managed to overcome the Heavenly Wrath, you are already on the same level of divinity as the Ancient Celestials!"

Lele protested with a soft mutter, "The Joyful Goddess..."

Yi Ping and everyone were startled as they gasped out!

Many of the other celestials around them turned a curious glance in their direction and were wondering what the commotion was about!

Even the Ascension Goddess was muttering, "How is that possible? I don't feel it..."

Lingfeng used her Divine Whisper on the group again as she sighed softly, "I find it hard to believe too but it is the truth. It is just that none of you have the state of divinity to awaken as Ancient Celestials yet. The powers of the Heavenly Wraths that have befallen on us are so terrifying that I can't believe that we have actually survived it that six hours ordeal. Even with the aid of the Golden Kirin, it is really improbably that we can survive. But always at the most crucial moment, the terrifying powers of the Heavenly Wrath seem to have withdrawn just as quickly and did not persist for too long. Maybe it is because of that auspicious celestial rainbow. We are really very fortunate. I will say too fortunate to be true. The number of Divine Calamities that we have to overcome is really too

many. It is like a dream that we have all survived.”

In fact, none of them really had any lasting memories of the Divine Calamities that they had overcome. They had fallen unconscious during the battle so many times and were always at their physical limits...

“But...” She looked at everyone with a solemn expression, “Hmm, it is most intriguing. If that is the case, if all of you manage to awaken then this will be the first time that second generation celestials are able to become Ancient Celestials. The first time in ages that there are new Ancient Celestials...”

Lele was elated but Yixian said gently to her, “Don’t be too happy yet. I have paid the price for quick escalation in the past. By skipping nine Divine Wraths at a single outcome, our mortal bodies will be unprepared for the next forthcoming divine tribulation which is the evolved Heavenly Wrath. The purposes of the Divine Wraths are also there to prepare and to fortify us until we are ready for our next divine tribulations and prepared for the next level of divinity. That won’t be good for us.”

Lele was startled as she had a sudden realization, “We will die the next time...”

The Ascension Goddess nodded slowly as she closed her eyes while muttering a soft sigh, “That is right. That will be our fates and there will be no escaping.”

Lele was petrified as she muttered, “We...will die...”

Yixian smiled gently. Having come close to dying many times, she was unconcerned.

Lingfeng looked at Yixian quietly. She may be the only one in this group that may awaken to become an Ancient Celestial. However, she was unsure if Yixian may survive her next divine tribulation which was the terrifying Heavenly Wrath which caused fear to even the most powerful Ancient Celestials!

Yixian smiled gently to Lele, “Nothing is immortal forever. Only the heavens are everlasting. I think that is a good thing. Tyrants can only rule

for a time and not forever. The new generations are able to succeed the mantle of the wise and to uphold it. If the older generations do not give way to the next generation then there will be no opportunities for the newer generation.”

Lie Qing sighed softly, “I do not agree. That is how conflicts always start. If the rulers are wise sages and they are able to rule forever, then there will be no more conflicts.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy whispered softly, “I disagree with you, Qing’Er. If the newer generations are not respectful to the achievements of the older generations, then conflicts will still arise.”

Youxue was amused as she said, “Maybe we should pay attention to the Lord Supreme first rather than engage in a debate. The last time that all of you had a debate, it takes a full three days for anyone of you to be pacified!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly at that. When these maidens had any disagreements, the arguments that they had often took a long while to die down, often settled when another new argument had started!

Yunzi said quietly, “I am more curious about the real identities of Yu’Er and Mei’Er. The Lord Supreme seems to be more forgiving towards them than our Sister Ye Yin and Sister Xingyue here.”

The Ascension Goddess said quietly, “I do not know either...”

The Lord Supreme thundered throughout the Golden Ascension Hall, silencing everyone and forcing everyone to look in his direction. “You must all be wondering why you are all here today. Why the leaders of hundreds of celestial clans, big or small is here today. If you observe the starry heavens, you must have observed that the Pinnacle Star has grown dim...”

Many of the celestials had all of a sudden become tense...

The Lord Supreme continued; his thunderous voice trembled throughout the hall. “For those that are knowledgeable in astrology, you must have already noticed that the dimming of the Pinnacle Star is also related to

the Unmoving Mountains. An earth shaking astrology event is about to befall the Unmoving Mountains. And anything that affects the Unmoving Mountains has to do with the Holy Ascension Sect!”

The ground beneath the Lord Supreme burst with martial force as he thundered, “The Holy Ascension Sect is one of the three major factions in the Celestial Realm. The demise of the Holy Ascension Sect will surely plunge the entire Celestial Realm into chaos and the dark celestial clans will be the ones that will come to dominate the entire Celestial Realm! When that time comes, hundreds of orthodox celestial clans will be destroyed!”

The Lord Supreme added solemnly, “For the past hundred years, how many new golden celestials are have ascended from the lower realm to the Celestial Realm? Very few! The lower realm is now dominated by conflicts and most of the celestial clans in the lower realm no longer exist, including the once influential Ascension Sect!”

Yu’Er nodded quietly to the Lord Supreme.

Once again, the celestials broke into thunderous uproars and mutterings!

Yi Ping was startled, “The demise of the Holy Ascension Sect? But isn’t the Holy Ascension Sect one of the most powerful celestial clans? The entire Celestial Realm will be purged into chaos? What can possibly destroy the Holy Ascension Sect? They are all super celestials...”

The Immortal Saint of Swords closed his eyes as he muttered quietly. But still, his soft murmurs could be heard clearly in the ears of many, “What have previously destroyed the Ancient Celestials in the lower realm will now happen to this generation too...”

Immortal Sword Zealot Sage was asking the same as the other celestial practitioners too, “Grand Patriarch, what is going on? Who is able to oppose the Holy Ascension Sect? Not even the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect will dare to attack the Unmoving Mountains...”

An old man had stood up from the golden section and he was immediately recognized as Old Hare. Even though he had an ordinary

celestial name but he was the grand patriarch of the Mythical Seal Clan and was also an Ancient Celestial!

Old Hare said solemnly, his voice resonated clearly amidst the outbursts of the other celestial practitioners. “The Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect are already on the move here!”

If it comes from Old Hare, then this news must be true! Many of the celestial practitioners were stunned at this proclamation!

“Even if we are not here, they cannot get past the defense formations and the many super celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect!”

“These dark celestial clans will be so bold?”

“These dark celestials are also led by highly attained Golden Celestials but they have already turned to the dark side.”

“Why will they want come here? We are all here now. Isn’t that foolish for them to do so?”

The Lord Supreme continued thunderously, “It is because the Stellar Sanctuary will soon descend on the Unmoving Mountains. We are not the only ones that know that the Stellar Sanctuary will make its next appearance here. Only the next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary have the power to destroy the Holy Ascension Sect!”

This time, thousands of celestial practitioners were dazzled by this earthshaking announcement!

It was because seeking out the Stellar Sanctuary was the life goals of virtually all the celestial practitioners!

They were actually so close to the next appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary which would only appear briefly for only three months! This was something unheard of and a most excellent opportunity!

Most of the celestial practitioners here had never stepped into the Stellar Sanctuary and were eager to experience the trials that were in it.

However, that was not the only reason. The martial treasures that were rumored to be in the Stellar Sanctuary were the most tempting reason and

an opportunity to be stronger than what they were now; the celestial practitioners that had entered the Stellar Sanctuary emerged stronger and possessed fighting experiences that could not be learnt by the other celestial practitioners that had never experienced the Stellar Sanctuary!

Once the news of the Stellar Sanctuary had descended on the Unmoving Mountains spread, all the celestial practitioners regardless of factions or whether they were neutral celestial clans were be rushing to reach the Stellar Sanctuary. Even if the powerful Holy Ascension Sect was in these mountains, the combined numbers of all the celestial clans could not be underestimated!

The Lord Supreme continued, "That is why you are all here. You are here to share in the spoils of the Stellar Sanctuary. However before that can happen, we must battle the hostile celestial clans that will be making their way here first..."

He laughed aloud, "They will think that we will be in the Stellar Sanctuary but in actual fact, we will still be waiting outside the Stellar Sanctuary while we anticipate their approach."

Many of the celestials shifted uncomfortably. It was not because they felt uncomfortable to ambush their opponents. Rather, they were afraid that they would be left behind while only the selected celestial clans would be allowed into the Stellar Sanctuary!

The Lord Supreme seemed to read their thoughts as he thundered mightily, "I can assure you that none of you will be left behind. We will only enter the Stellar Sanctuary once we have eliminated our opponents. In this way, we can avert this forthcoming crisis, deny the dark celestial clans the chance to enter the Stellar Sanctuary and bring down some of their most powerful exponents!"

His golden eyes began to flicker as he continued, "Even if we lay in wait for them for one month, I can assure you that we will not have wasted time. Even if you think you are good enough, you are certainly not good enough to break through the many levels of the Stellar Sanctuary without my guidance and will only throw your lives unnecessary in there. There

are certain floors in the Stellar Sanctuary that are so confusing that you can spend weeks moving in the same level. Am I right to say so, the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness?”

He looked at the Universal Old Man and Lingfeng with a mocking look.

Lingfeng hummed coldly while the Universal Old Man grumbled, “I didn’t come here to help you...”

The entire hall burst into another thunderous uproar when the names of the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness had been announced!

Some of the more experienced celestials had already know that Yi Ping’s group had two Ancient Celestials but they had never expected that it would be the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness who were two of seven most powerful celestial fighters from a long time ago!

“They are the Universal Old Man and the Heaveness!?”

“This alluring maiden is actually the Heaveness?”

“No wonder they have no divine swords. Maybe it is because they have already reached the divine level of using anything as their weapons...”

Yi Ping was not happy. It was because there was going to be further bloodshed!

Therefore he stood up with the intentions of confronting the Lord Supreme; this startled his consorts!

The Ascension Goddess turned ashen as she quickly whispered, “Ping’Er, where are you going?”

Shen Xingyue said panicky, “Ping’Er, wait! Surely, you are not thinking of...”

But Yi Ping reflexes were too quick and as he got up to leap down from the platform, he saw the meditating Maiden Ziyan who was sitting in a cross legged position and was startled to accidentally see what he should not see from his position!

At the same time, the Goddess Celestial Alice had just opened her eyes and sighed softly. “It is done! I have finally regained the crux of my

internal strength...”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping became panicky; he was so flustered that he forgot that he was about to leap down the platform to confront the Lord Supreme that he tripped and fell headlong into the Goddess Celestial Alice!

The Goddess Celestial Alice was also panicky when she had saw Yi Ping tripping and falling onto her!

She could have easily pushed him away but because she did not want to hurt him and because she was panicky, she lost her natural reflexes momentarily!

And Yi Ping had fallen into her face, he had accidentally kissed her on her lips! As they both reacted panicky at the same time, they were tripping over each other until Yi Ping was lying on top of her!

Yi Ping was stunned and he panicky apologized, “Maiden Ziyan! I didn’t do it on purpose! I trip...”

All of a sudden, he had realized that his hands were on her bosoms that he became even more flustered. As he got up, the Goddess Celestial Alice Goddess was doing the same too and they both tripped over one another again!

The Goddess Celestial Alice felt an electrifying sensation pulsing through her and she felt weak as she struggled to free herself, thinking at the same time. “This feeling...the same feeling as the last time...”

But she quickly rebuked him shyly, “What are you doing? Hands off me immediately!”

Yi Ping was stammering, “I didn’t do that on purpose really...”

At the same time, Yi Ping’s consorts were horrified and the other celestial practitioners were all looking in their direction!

Even the Lord Supreme was stunned for words and the entire Golden Ascension Hall was suddenly extremely quiet!

Yi Ping could only smile awkwardly as he muttered, “That is not what

you all think...I have just accidentally tripped...as simple as that..."

Ouyang Feipeng the Windy Blade hummed coldly, "Lies! That is the oldest trick in the book! You have actually used such a dirty trick in the presence of so many eminent celestial practitioners to dishonor a maiden. Despicable!"

Many of the celestial practitioners were also burning with anger against Yi Ping as they all rose up!

The Northern Tyrant was also shouting, "Does the Lord of the Tranquil City so belittle all of us here that he thinks that he can get away from outraging the modesty of a maiden in our presence? Even if they are acquaintances, this place is a public place and is the Golden Ascension Hall of the Holy Ascension Sect! This is such an insolent disrespect to the host!"

Lady Snowflake hummed coldly, "The Erudite Sect may be a small sect but do you think you can get away with such an action in broad daylight?"

Lele had grabbed Yi Ping aside as she looked at him woefully, "What do you think you are doing?!"

Lingfeng was in disbelief, "You clumsy oaf!"

Yi Ping stammered for words but there were none as he looked all the celestial practitioners that were looking in his direction and at all his consorts who were looking at him with a stunned expression, "I...I...no...that...I...I....not...what...you...all...think...I saw her...I fall..."

Chapter 116: Secrets of the Eclipse and Axis Goddess

Ouyang Feipeng the Windy Blade hummed coldly, “Will a martial exponent be so careless as to trip just like this?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice was flabbergasted, “Yi Ping, you really trip on me...intentionally?”

Lingfeng the Heaveness warned her solemnly, “You think too much. I know him better than anyone. He is a really clumsy fellow.”

Yi Ping sighed softly as he took a glance at Maiden Ziyan. He really did not know who she really was but he was secretly glad that she had survived that fateful aftermath when the Astronomic Stellar Formation had collapsed.

Slowly he regained his composure as he thought, “Isn’t that what I have come for? To know if she will be here? Even though I do not really know who she really is but somehow I can feel that when the Stellar Sanctuary has appeared again and if she is still alive, she will surely be there. I got my answers now...”

To the surprise of everyone, Yi Ping jumped down from the platform as he bowed respectfully. “I will take my leave now. I have no wish to enter the Stellar Sanctuary...”

The Goddess Celestial Alice was startled as she thought, “He is leaving?”

The other celestial practitioners were startled too but for entirely different reasons!

The session that the Lord Supreme was conducting was still in progress. This was considered to be an insolent disrespect for the Lord Supreme and counter to the martial etiquette of the martial clans.

Also, Yi Ping had already interrupted the session by outraging the modesty of ‘Maiden Ziyan’. The first time that he had erred, many of the

highly attained celestial practitioners would still find it amusing. But when Yi Ping had declared his intention to leave the session in progress, it was considered to be too insolent for most of the celestial practitioners!

And Yi Ping had boldly declared that he was not interested in entering the Stellar Sanctuary. In this hall, not a single celestial practitioner believed it! The martial treasures of the Stellar Sanctuary and an opportunity to explore the Stellar Sanctuary were a life-long ambition of all the celestial practitioners!

For the weaker celestial practitioners even if they were fearful of the Stellar Sanctuary, they knew that the first few floors of the Stellar Sanctuary were actually relative safe and therefore posed no threat to their lives.

To be able to witness the descend of the Stellar Sanctuary and to be led into the higher floors of the Stellar Sanctuary by the powerful Holy Ascension Sect, would anyone give up such a god given opportunity? This led most of the celestial practitioners to conclude that Yi Ping was trying to warn either the Martial Deviant Clan or the Celestial Aiel Sect!

The Lord Supreme said unhurriedly as his thunderous voice rumbled throughout the vast Gold Ascension Hall, "You want to leave? Do you know who I am? Do you think that you can leave just like this without asking for my permission?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly but he was firm, "I have almost finished my business here. I should leave now but..."

He sighed softly.

The Lord Supreme thundered mightily and the entire hall began to reverberate with his martial shout and could feel his extraordinary martial force bursting forth like a tidal wave, "Why are you here for if it is not to ally with the Holy Ascension Sect or for the Stellar Sanctuary? But what? You still have something unfinished to do?"

The Northern Tyrant thought, "This is my chance to impress the Lord Supreme and to increase my prestige among these celestial practitioners. Moreover, I still have a debt to settle with this Yi Ping!"

So he shouted at Yi Ping, “Insolent young man! That is the Lord Supreme, the protégé leader of the Holy Ascension Sect that you are addressing!”

The Deadly Wanderer sighed as he said aloud, “Young man, you should apology immediately. Then you may have a chance to live.”

Unlike the Northern Tyrant, he was impressed with Yi Ping therefore he tried to warn him.

Feng Mantian who disliked Yi Ping from the start said aloud, “He has a strong contempt for the Holy Ascension Sect. At the foot of the mountains, he even claims that he was even more superior to the Lord Supreme!”

That was a blatant lie of course! His true aim was to discredit him and to turn even the neutral celestial practitioners against him!

The Northern Tyrant seemed to have sensed it and therefore he decided to fan the burning flames. It did not matter if Feng Mantian was telling the truth or not. If there were two different independent witnesses that shared the same account, then either it was the truth or it was sufficient enough to cause doubts to the listener!

Therefore he said aloud, “When I had visited the Tranquil City six months ago, that was what he had said to me as well!”

Shen Xingyue was aroused with burning rage when she had heard that. It was obvious that they were slandering Yi Ping! They just did not want to let Yi Ping leave this hall alive!

So she cried aloud, “Feng Mantian, Northern Tyrant!”

In an instant, she had already drawn out her Blue Heavens as she attacked the Northern Tyrant with a blue flash!

The Northern Tyrant had barely evaded her attack when Feng Mantian who was at the opposing end of the hall was flung to the side in disbelief as a mighty thunderclap exploded mightily when he raised his long sword and palm against Shen Xingyue who had appeared next to him!

Almost immediately, six celestial practitioners who were from the Northern Tyrant's side had joined the battle but before they could take just a few steps forward, Shen Xingyue had appeared in front of them and had exploded their vicinity with the martial force of her Big Dipper Hands!

The Northern Tyrant and the six celestial practitioners had immediately raised their martial power as they took a few steps backward; it was because this martial force was really too imposing!

But before they could wait for the martial force to be receded and seized the opportunity to attack, there were dozens of blue flashes; three of the celestial practitioners were slashed and had received sword wounds!

Thousands of celestial practitioners were on their feet immediately and another dozen celestial practitioners had joined the battle array!

Feng Mantian shouted to the other Ascendant celestial practitioners, "What are you all waiting for? She has attacked another Ascendant practitioner and has started a fight in the sacred hall of the Golden Ascension Hall. Stop her!"

At Feng Mantian's commands, dozens of Ascendant practitioners had all joined in the fight!

But before the dozens of Ascendant practitioners could even move to stop Shen Xingyue, Yi Ping had interrupted them as he exchanged blows with them while shouting, "Xingyue, that is too impulsive of you!"

Shen Xingyue had just caught a blow from Ouyang Feipeng who had also joined in the fight and had stumbled backward next to Yi Ping, was smiling. "Who is the real impulsive one? I can't let you handle this alone. They are obviously creating conflicts with you. Even if you can endure this, I can't allow this!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly at her reply while he raised the Celestial Alice and displayed the Ultrapowerful Force at the same time, just in time to neutralize several bursts of martial force that were rippling in his direction!

Lele, Lie Qing, Youxue, Youxue, the Universal Old Man, Lingfeng, Yixian and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were startled that Shen Xingyue had the audacity to attack Feng Mantian and the Northern Tyrant in the presence of the Lord Supreme!

Lie Qing smiled coldly as she raised her Perpetual Darkness, "Let's go and aid them!"

Lingfeng was looking at Yu'Er and Mei'Er who were standing at the throne seat with the Lord Supreme as she muttered, "Why didn't they act? Why didn't they stop everyone from attacking Yi Ping and Shen Xingyue?"

The Ascension Goddess interrupted suddenly as she whispered, "Wait! Wait and see first!"

Lingfeng said, "Maybe she is right."

Lele said unhappily, "If we don't aid her now, Yi Ping and Shen Xingyue will surely be in danger. Is that what you want to see? Or is this the time for the two of you to remove your rival in love?"

The Ascension Goddess shook her head as she said, "The powerful celestials have not stepped in yet. The Lord Supreme and the other Supreme Celestials have not stepped in yet. Look at their expressions. Also, have you ever seen the true sword arts of Shen Xingyue yet? When is the last time that you have seen her so serious? Don't you want to find out her true martial strength?"

Yunzi asked, "You mean, she is never serious and is concealing her true martial strength?"

The Ascension Goddess nodded slowly as she asked, "What do you think of my martial skills?"

Everyone was silent. They did not want to praise her but they knew in secret that the Ascension Goddess was a formidable opponent!

The Ascension Goddess said quietly, "Even for me, I may not necessary be her match. The Fiery Phoenix possesses several epitome techniques. That is not all. She is picked to be a Supreme Celestial for a reason. She is not just fast..."

Youxue hummed coldly, “Even if we don’t give them a lending hand, Maiden Ziyan over here will surely aid them. So why worry?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice smiled coldly, “Why should I? He wants to be a hero, so be it. I won’t want to miss the opportunity to enter the Stellar Sanctuary.”

That was not true. She was actually observing the movements of the dozens of the more powerful celestial practitioners that were in this hall. Earlier, when she had flashed her divine sword she had already counted who were the ones that had divine swords in their hands and knew who her opponents were going to be. As for those opponents that did not possessed divine swords like the Immortal Saint of Swords, she had also taken notice of them. It was because they were too calm and their state of divinities meant that they were a threat to her!

Youxue sighed softly, “You are really heartless to say so. For the past three months, Yi Ping has been burning joss sticks every single day in memories of you. The main reason why he has come here is to find out if you still alive. Now that he knows, he has no more business here.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice was startled as she thought, “I am the reason that he is here? I am also here because if he survives, he will surely be entice by the martial secrets of the Stellar Sanctuary and will be here. That is why I am here...”

All of a sudden, the noisy Golden Ascension Hall had become muted except for the outcries of the wounded as the dust settled!

More than thirty golden and crimson eyes celestial practitioners were all moaning on the ground, including Ouyang Feipeng who was muttering with disbelief!

They did not receive lethal wounds but were nevertheless temporary floored on the ground!

Shen Xingyue had grabbed Feng Mantian and the Northern Tyrant, throwing them in front of Yi Ping as she demanded. “Quickly apologize to him or you will be sorry!”

Feng Mantian laughed coldly, "You may have beaten us but do you think you can get away from here?"

The Northern Tyrant smirked coldly, "What if I refuse? Do you think the Lord Supreme will let you off just like this?"

Yi Ping was not paying attention to Feng Mantian and to the Northern Tyrant. Instead he was bewildered why there were only thirty odd opponents; this made this fight too easy for Shen Xingyue and him!

Many of the celestial practitioners were looking at the handsome young man who seemed to be surrounded by righteousness and the angelic delicate maiden in red dress who had just beaten twenty celestial practitioners in just a blink of an eye, seeming so effortlessly!

The feat that the angelic delicate maiden did was not something that could be achieved so easily!

Even Yi Ping was dazzled by her movements as he thought, "How is it possible for Xing'Er to attack all her opponents with such a precise accuracy while on the move? If she fails to defeat her opponents or meet with a much more powerful opponent then she will be at a disadvantage..."

Indeed, her dazzling attacking speed halted many of the celestial practitioners who were preparing to jump down from the platform as they realized that she was not an ordinary opponent that they could be able to fight as they adopted a wait and see approach first!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage was gasping, "She is really quick. Finally I have found a worthy opponent for me to fight! I wonder how her speed attacks fare against my speed techniques..."

Shen Xingyue raised her Blue Heavens in a slow swirling motion as dozens of multiple blue hues appeared and vanished instantly, caused by the blue reflection of her Blue Heavens!

The Immortal Saint of Swords had rose up as he clenched his fists, "She has not only divine harmonized with the Blue Heavens but she is also able to bring out the full potential of the Blue Heavens..."

Mei'Er laughed softly; her voice had a strange allure that seemed to bring the attentions of all the celestial practitioners to her. "Maybe you should get yourself a new celestial name as the Blue Phoenix instead."

She turned to the Lord Supreme to say, "She is the Dark Enchantress but is now known as the Fiery Phoenix. She is also the youngest Ascendant to overcome her Divine Calamity and to join us as a celestial practitioner. She was also the chosen mistress of the Perpetual Darkness but unfortunately she had lost it during the Divine Descendant. As you can see, she is now the mistress of the Blue Heavens..."

Yi Ping cried out aloud as he grasped the Celestial Alice with trembling hands, interrupting her. "Mei'Er, Yu'Er. You don't have to be afraid of the Lord Supreme! I am not asking you to forsake your vows but we should be together! Moreover that is just your past life and past life does not exist!"

Feng Mantian also took out the opportunity to call aloud to all the elders and masters of the Holy Ascension Sect, "My protégé masters and elders! You have heard him! If we do not give him due lessons, he will surely think that the Holy Ascension Sect is afraid of him. This will only fuel the arrogant of these dark celestial practitioners!"

But still the Lord Supreme was quiet as he listened patiently, so did Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim.

Yu'Er said quietly to the Lord Supreme, "I am afraid that in terms of battle visualization and speed attacks, there are few celestial practitioners in the entire Celestial Realm that can match her now. She seems to have awakened much earlier than we have expected..."

Shen Xingyue exclaimed aloud, "Yu'Er, you don't have to be afraid of the Lord Supreme! Does it matter now? If they want us to be dead, then our vows will mean nothing at all! Between my vows to the Ascension Sect and to Yi Ping, I will pick Yi Ping!"

"That is right!"

It was the Ascension Goddess. She had appeared next to her and was smiling at her, "That is interesting isn't it? Between the two vows, we have to pick one. But breaking any of our vows will doom our divine

practice.”

Yunzi, Youxue, Lingfeng, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lie Qing, Lele and Yixian had appeared beside them and they were smiling!

At this moment, they should be afraid and in secret, they really were but they had found courage in one another!

Even the Universal Old Man had leapt down from the platform to join them!

Yi Ping was startled, “Everyone...”

Lele laughed softly, “I have never expected that our last battle will be in this hall, surrounded by thousands of celestial practitioners. But...”

She lowered her voice shyly, “But I will accompany you no matter what. I already know the risks in coming here. Whether you have screwed up this gathering doesn’t matter to me. It is going to be an inevitable one way or another.”

Yunzi nodded, “We have never expected the Holy Ascension Sect to be forgiving towards Ye Yin or Shen Xingyue. But we are going to do what is right and give them an accounting!”

The Ascension Goddess laughed as she grasped her Despairing Heaven but she turned solemn almost immediately, “Yi Ping is my celestial partner now. A fact that is undeniable. I just want some quiet time with him, far away from any conflicts. Is that wrong to ask for something this simple? After all that I have done for the Holy Ascension Sect?”

To her surprise, the Lord Supreme said. “You have done nothing wrong.”

All of a sudden, he roared with laughter as he asked Yi Ping. “So you are Yi Ping? Good, good, good!”

He had said ‘good’ three times in a row!

The Lord Supreme stroked his long beard, “But I am still not going to let you go as you please. That is because you are my son-in-law. So how will I let you leave just like this without preparing a banquet for you first? You are really an impressive and fine match for my two daughters!”

All the celestial practitioners were stunned at what they had just heard!

Yi Ping was the son-in-law of the Lord Supreme?!

Feng Mantian and the Northern Tyrant broke into cold sweat! If Yi Ping was the son-in-law of the Lord Supreme, then that means that they got themselves into a fine fix!

Feng Mantian immediately muttered, "Great Hero Yi Ping, please put a few good words for me..."

Even the Northern Tyrant was smiling bitterly, "I didn't know that you are the son-in-law of the Lord Supreme or else even if I have ten lives, I would never dare to offend you..."

Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage was laughing, "Finally the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess have ascended to the Celestial Realm. This is the day that the Lord Supreme and I have been waiting for hundreds of years!"

To the Lord Supreme and Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage, it may have taken them hundreds of years but for the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess, it had actually taken them thousands of years as they meditated their state of divinity in the lower realm!

Yu'Er and Mei'Er had both broke into smiles at the same time!

Yu'Er winked at Yi Ping and the rest of the group, "My significant other and my sisters. Sorry to give you such a scare. But this is supposed to be a secret even in the Ascension Sect. But now..."

She said shyly to Yi Ping while looking at the Lord Supreme, "We want to tell you only after this congregation has ended but it does not matter anymore now."

The Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue were both looking at each other with stunned expressions; they knew that the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess had a special position in the Ascension Sect and may even be Ancient Celestials but this was something that they had not been expecting!

Lingfeng was stunned as she looked at the Universal Old Man; they

were both thinking of the same thing. How was it possible for Ancient Celestials to have children? If the Ancient Celestials were able to have children, then this Celestial Realm would long be populated by the first generation celestials and not the second generation celestials!

Only the second generation celestials were able to have children but their offspring were not able to become a celestial practitioner simply because of the fact that the first divine tribulation of the celestials, the Divine Calamity did not exist in the Celestial Realm!

Without the cleansing fire of the first divine tribulation, few mortals were able to withstand the second divine tribulation, the Divine Wrath!

The only way for them to become celestial practitioners were extraordinary luck, extraordinary circumstances or eats the hearts of the celestial practitioners to become a dark celestial practitioner!

Meanwhile, the Goddess Celestial Alice was trembling lightly as she murmured. "How is it possible...how is it possible...this cannot be. It can't be right. It must be a lie...Destiny decides everything and this is impossible to happen. This goes against the providence of heavens and all the beliefs that I know..."

Chapter 117: The Pangu Clan

Yi Ping was now in a private hall with the Lord Supreme, Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue.

Compared to the Golden Ascension Hall that could seat thousands, this hall was much smaller and could at most only fit twenty comfortably.

Yi Ping was now standing uncomfortably in front of the Lord Supreme. It was because he had never expected the Lord Supreme to be the father of Yu'Er and Mei'Er. Not only that, he was also the current protégé leader of the powerful Holy Ascension Sect!

The Lord Supreme stroked his long beard as he asked, "What is the matter? Now that we are alone, you are still shy to address me as your father-in-law?"

Mei'Er gave Yi Ping a quick kick to remind him and Yi Ping recovered his composure as he quickly said, "My respects to my father-in-law..."

Yi Ping looked at Yu'Er and Mei'Er in bewilderment as he stammered for words. He looked at the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue for answers but they were surprisingly docile in the presence of the Lord Supreme...

The Lord Supreme looked at Yi Ping, the Ascension Goddess and the Fiery Phoenix before he laughed. "The three of you must be thinking of the same thing. How is it possible for the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess to be my daughters, am I right?"

The Ascension Goddess and the Fiery Phoenix exchanged awkward looks. Indeed, that was what they had been pondering about!

Yi Ping bowed with his hands again, "Pardon my stupidity. That is indeed what I am thinking. I have thought that the ancient celestial practitioners are unable to have any offspring?"

The Lord Supreme answered, "Though it is very rare, it does happen for the second generation celestial practitioners. However for the first generation celestial practitioners, indeed it has never happened before except for my case!"

Yi Ping was startled as he looked at Yu'Er and Mei'Er who were looking at him dreamily...

The Lord Supreme stroked his long beard as he sighed deeply, "That is a long time ago when I am still in the lower realm. In those days, monstrous beasts walked the earth as they terrorized the mortals and the weaker creatures. As a celestial practitioner from the Pangu Clan, it is my calling to pacify the heavens below for the mortals and to bring tranquility for the mortals..."

The Ascension Goddess was startled. It was because she had never heard anything like this before. So she gasped out, "Pangu Clan? Our Ascendant Supreme Leader has a clan before the Ascension Sect?"

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "I have looked through the records of the Ascension Sect but there are no records of the Pangu Clan or the monstrous beasts. Are these monstrous beasts the mythical dragons?"

The Lord Supreme nodded, "They are indeed the Dragons. We call them the Dragon Race. As for the Pangu Clan, it is just a term that describes the Ancient Celestials in the past. Pangu means Ancient Origin. When used as a context for the Pangu Clan, it just means the First Race from the origin of time. The Dragon Race and the Pangu Clan have been at war for a long time."

The Ascension Goddess was startled, "What happens to the Dragon Race now?"

The Lord Supreme said, "They are no longer in the lower realm..."

Shen Xingyue was startled, "The Pangu Clan exterminates the Dragon Race?"

She quickly kept quiet as she realized that she had been interrupting the Lord Supreme once too many times.

But the Lord Supreme did not seem to mind as he shook his head, "Only the Ancient Dragons and the Ancient Serpents from the lower realm. The Dragon Race still thrives in the other heavens of the Celestial Realm, regions that even the celestial practitioners dare not visit."

Yi Ping said quietly, “No one has the right to destroy each other. I don’t believe that Heavens will condone such an act.”

The Lord Supreme patted Yi Ping, much to his surprise. “You are wrong. It is the will of the Heavens for the Dragon Race to be destroyed to pave the way for the mortals. It is because the Dragon Race that remains in the lower realm has turned to wickedness and no longer seeks enlightenment. As a matter of fact, we have received a secret edict from the Heavens to destroy them. In return for successfully accomplishing this monument task, the Pangu Clan will be allowed to enter the Celestial Realm! Therefore the Ancient Celestials organized themselves into martial clans and guided the mortals to aid them into accomplishing this monument task. That was how the first martial and celestial clans had started.”

Yi Ping was startled as he muttered, “An edict from the Heavens?”

The Ascension Goddess gasped, “This is the forgotten ancient history of the Ancient Celestials?”

The Lord Supreme laughed, “Don’t forget. You didn’t come to ask me about the Pangu Clan or the origin of the Ancient Celestials.”

Yi Ping smiled weakly, “That is right...”

The Lord Supreme said, “One day during a battle with an ancient dragon, I had sustained a grievous injury. I thought I was a goner till she appeared...”

Yu’Er lowered her head shyly, “That is our mother. She is a mortal.”

Yi Ping was struck by this revelation as he thought, “So it is still true that it is impossible for Ancient Celestials to have any offspring...but is it really possible for an Ancient Celestial and a mortal to have any offspring at all...”

The Lord Supreme began to gulp a flask of wine as he continued, “That’s right. When I have recovered, I have found out that I cannot leave her alone anymore. Even though, our time together is short, it is blissful and to my surprise I have two daughters with her eventually...”

He looked at Yu'Er and Mei'Er...

He continued, "At first I don't believe it myself but it is the truth. The lower realm is vast and there are many secrets that are unknown even to the celestial practitioners; secrets that can change the heavens and the earth if it is known. Because I know that the Ancient Celestials are winning the battle and will transmigrate to the Celestial Realm eventually, I traveled across the fraternity to find an alternate means of divine practice for my daughters. Eventually I have found it but it requires the divine harmony of the divine swords. So I sought out the fraternity for two divine swords."

He paused for a while before continuing, "So that is how the divine sword practice of Ascension Sect comes to be and how the special order of the Supreme Celestials come into place. After I have ascended, I pass the leadership to Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage. Only he knows about the true origin of the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess."

Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage sighed, "I have never expected that I will be so useless and they have to sacrifice their divine swords and divine practice so that I will be able to ascend..."

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, "There are many Ascendants that are in the Celestial Realm that owed it to them or else they won't be here today..."

Shen Xingyue nodded slowly, "And in the lower realm, even the dark natures of our divine swords are suppressed by the divine practice of the two Heaven Goddesses. While I have only seen them just a few times but I am always grateful and appreciative towards them. I have always dream of the day when I can be as highly enlightened as them..."

Yu'Er smiled gently, "You are now. I am sorry for that time when we pushed you down the bottomless ravine..."

Shen Xingyue smiled, "I have forgotten about it and have already put it aside."

Mei'Er laughed softly as she clapped happily, "My good Sister Xingyue!"

The Lord Supreme laughed aloud but he soon turned solemn as he looked at Yi Ping, “Do you know what I want to tell you?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he asked humbly, “Pardon my stupidity again. Can senior explain to me?”

The Lord Supreme pretended to be displeased as he patted Yi Ping hard on his shoulder, “My son-in-law! You should address me as your father-in-law now!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he quickly corrected himself, “Yes, yes father-in-law...”

The Lord Supreme said, “I believe that it is our love has moved the heavens and the earth, creating a miracle. The highest state of divinity is love. Do you get me?”

Yi Ping was startled, “The highest state of divinity is love?”

The Lord Supreme said solemnly, “I am entrusting my two daughters to you now. They have told me of the many times that you have rescued them from dangers. However, I am a little worry for my two daughters.”

Yi Ping was touched in the heart when he had heard that the Lord Supreme had actually given his blessings to them so he bowed respectfully and said, “I will surely take good care of Yu’Er and Mei’Er. Is there anything that I can help?”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er both muttered, “Yi Ping...” as they embraced his arms on both sides.

The Lord Supreme replied, “You can help me by staying here a little longer so that I can talk to my daughters and understand what they had gone through these few years that we have been apart...”

The Lord Supreme sighed softly as he looked at the Ascension Goddess and the Fiery Phoenix, “However, you have one too many consorts. How can I ensure that you will be fair to my precious daughters?”

Yi Ping was speechless. Indeed, he could not ensure that and this was something that he had always been guilty about!

He could never be able to create the love that can move the heavens and the earth like the Lord Supreme. His meaning was now very clear to him!

The Lord Supreme saw the expressions in his eyes as he comforted him, "Take heart. I am however, extremely grateful that you have brought them to the Celestial Realm so that I can have a last look at them..."

Yu'Er was startled, "Father? Last look? What do you mean?"

Mei'Er was equally startled as she looked at the Lord Supreme with a stunned expression!

The Lord Supreme laughed, "Not to worry. The Pinnacle Star is dimming and that mean something will happen to the Ascension Sect. Even if I am able to survive the trip to the Stellar Sanctuary, I am afraid that I will have a difficult time overcoming my Heavenly Wrath Tribulation that is forthcoming soon..."

He gave a pat to Yu'Er and Mei'Er, "Tonight is not the time to discuss clan affairs or my personal affairs. Yu'Er, Mei'Er...so this is your current name. I have feared the worst when the Divine Descendant had befall the lower realm and all my divine calculations tell me to prepare for the worst...I am really happy today. And to think that my two precious daughters have not only survived, you have also transmigrated to the Celestial Realm now."

Yu'Er said quietly, "We have indeed died once. But because of our state of divinities, somehow we have been reincarnated again and even regained our memories..."

Mei'Er said excitedly, "It is because of Yi Ping! He is the White Sage! He has brought us all back..."

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "I don't know..."

He looked at Shen Xingyue with a soft sigh, "I have only scant memories of the White Sage. I don't know if I am really the White Sage. I am not the White Sage. He is an enlightened celestial practitioner that impressed everyone but I..."

Shen Xingyue held his hands gently as she said softly, "No, you are the

White Sage. I know you are him in my heart. It is because the White Sage is too enlightened that he blamed himself for causing the deaths of the two Ascendant Heaven Goddesses and the three sisters of the Melody Palace.”

Mei’Er was tearful, “Yes, you are him. There is no doubt about it! You share his kind soul and heart. The White Sage has thought that if he was stupid, then the many unfortunate things would never happen...”

Yu’Er nodded, “But we have all met again!”

All of a sudden, Yu’Er said excitedly. “Don’t tell me it is because of the love in Yi Ping’s heart that we have all met again!?”

The Ascension Goddess shifted uncomfortably and was envious that they had such a heartbreaking story in the past...

The Lord Supreme and the Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage were startled as they looked at Yi Ping...

Yi Ping shifted awkwardly as he tried to change the topic, “I am really curious. What is this secret edict of heavens that you have mentioned? I mean, who is the messenger that can compel all the celestial practitioners to accept the edict of heavens?”

Now that Yi Ping had mentioned it, the Ascension Goddess, Shen Xingyue, Yu’Er and Mei’Er were also curious! Somehow, Yi Ping had an uncanny ability to ask the crux of any questions that they had missed!

This time round, the Lord Supreme was silent for a while before he said quietly, “The Goddess Celestial Alice, wielder of the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars...”

He had grown suddenly very solemn, “That Maiden Ziyan that was here today, she bears a strong resemblance to the Goddess Celestial Alice. Even though it had been thousands of years and I have never seen her face before but her standing posture is exactly like the Goddess Celestial Alice. The strongest evidence is the mark that is on her forehead...”

He had only seen her statues from the ancient ruins that he had found. The secret edict was in fact conveyed by the elders of the Pangu Clan and

spread through word of mouth.

Yi Ping muttered, "She is the Goddess Celestial Alice? Isn't she the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?"

Yu'Er said quietly, "She is surely not an ordinary celestial practitioner. Have you ever seen anyone with that many Negative Core Divine Pills, giving out like the way she does?"

The Lord Supreme was startled, "You have the Negative Core Divine Pills?"

Yu'Er replied quietly, "We no longer have it now. We are forced to consume it when we are undergoing the divine tribulations to preserve ourselves..."

Mei'Er asked, "She is really the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

The Lord Supreme was solemn as he looked at Mei'Er and Yi Ping, "I can't be sure too. But if she is really the Goddess Celestial Alice, then the heavens and the earth will surely be in an upheaval. So, can you tell me from the start to the finish, how did you know her?"

Mei'Er smiled weakly, "I think it is better to let Yi Ping starts. We don't even know if the Immortal Divine Practice that we have seen is really real..."

The Lord Supreme and Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage received a powerful jolt as they gasped out at the same time, "The Immortal Divine Practice!!!"

The Lord Supreme seemed to have lost his composure as he asked Yi Ping, "Quick, tell me about it!"

Yi Ping bowed respectfully as he said, "Then I shall start from the Astronomic Stellar Formation..."

Chapter 118: The Eternal City at Beyond

It was late at night.

Yi Ping was alone in his chamber and he was sighing softly. The room was dark but he could see perfectly well.

He quietly sheathed the Celestial Alice into the scabbard as he wondered, "I can't see the rainbow hues now. That is such a weird thing..."

He was sighing with a heavy heart after relating the accounts of the Astronomic Stellar Formation to the Lord Supreme and Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage.

It was because what they had requested from him was asking the impossible.

He sighed again as he began to reflect on it...

After hearing the accounts of Yi Ping, Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Ye Yin and Shen Xingyue, the Lord Supreme and the Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage were even more mystified than moving closer to solving Maiden Ziyang true identity.

Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage muttered, "No wonder you have called her the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. But is she? I find it hard to believe that even the Kirins will obey her. Do you know how many celestial practitioners have perished in the hands of the Dragon Race? Is that a trick or illusions? If it is the Goddess Celestial Alice that has sent the edict to destroy the Ancient Dragons, then why is she in the company of the Dragon Race and even directing them?"

The Lord Supreme was muttering repeatedly after he had heard Yi Ping's account, "...to be humble and know the virtues of Heaven, mortals therefore must be sincere and truthful; knowing right and wrong and be filled with the expansive air of righteousness. Only then can they be one with the virtues of Heaven and be oneness with the heavens and the earth..."

Yu'Er asked gently when she sensed that the Lord Supreme seemed trouble, "Father, what is the matter?"

Mei'Er nodded gently too...

At the same time, Yi Ping was a little startled to notice that Yu'Er and Mei'Er seemed to have matured now and their state of divinities seemed to have made them appeared stately. He thought, "They are the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess..."

The Lord Supreme regained some of his composure as he said, "Nothing. Just think that it is weird that she calls the celestial practitioners mortals..."

But he soon began to mutter, "The Goddess Celestial Alice of the Ninth Heavens...the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars...the Goddess Celestial Alice...is she really a Goddess?"

Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage looked at Yi Ping, "Yi Ping, do you think she is the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "I don't know. I don't think so. She never claims to be the Goddess Celestial Alice. There is no reason not to believe her, am I right?"

Shen Xingyue muttered, "You are too trusting of others, Ping'Er."

The Ascension Goddess hummed coldly but she only dared to do it softly because she was in the presence of the Lord Supreme, "Is it because you like her or she like her that you are defending her?"

Yi Ping said quietly, "I don't know her..."

The Ascension Goddess said, "You don't know her? She had saved your life earlier in the Golden Ascension Hall? Even though it is subtle and brief, I have seen it!"

Shen Xingyue was smiling bitterly, "You don't know her, and you will burn joss sticks to her every day?"

Yi Ping said awkwardly, "Without her Negative Core Divine Pills, we will never survive through the aftermath of the collapse of the

Astronomic Stellar Formation. Moreover, I have always blamed myself for causing her death. If I didn't break that seal...if only I have held onto her more firmly..."

Yu'Er sighed softly, "Yi Ping, you have a kind heart..."

Mei'Er nodded, "Sisters, let's us not blame Yi Ping anymore..."

All of a sudden, the Lord Supreme said solemnly. "That's right. There is only one thing left for my good son-in-law to do now. He has to seduce Maiden Ziyan and coerce her to tell the truth."

Yi Ping was stunned at what he had heard and so were the others!

Yu'Er smiled bitterly, "Father, you must be joking..."

The Lord Supreme sighed softly, "Do I look or sound like I am joking?"

Yi Ping quickly said, "That is impossible! Moreover, she has never offended anyone of us. Everyone have their own secrets..."

The Lord Supreme interrupted, "If you don't do it, many will die. Is that what you want? Whether she is the Goddess Celestial Alice and how she got that Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars is very important."

Yi Ping asked, "That is so important?"

The Lord Supreme said, "If she is the Goddess Celestial Alice and is here to observe us before delivering her judgment, I am afraid that she will wipe us all out from the Celestial Realm if she wants to."

Yi Ping said firmly, "The Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars belong to the Erudite Sect and belongs to Lady Snowflake. Shouldn't we look for the protégé leader and question her first?"

The Lord Supreme said, "You are too naïve. One look at Lady Snowflake and I know that her level of divinity can't be compared to Maiden Ziyan. You really believe that Maiden Ziyan is her protégé? Yet you have seen her in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Can you explain this contradiction?"

Yi Ping was speechless as he stumbled for words...

Shen Xingyue quickly added, "To say a word of fairness, we have really never seen her with the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars. Moreover, the Erudite Sect is known as the follower of the Goddess Theocracy. So if they have the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars, it is still not so surprising."

The Ascension Goddess pretended to yawn as she said, "For someone that is wearing the Celestium Silk underneath her robe, possesses the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars and the ability to direct the Kirins...that is omnipotent already. Do we need further proof of anything?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "We must not wrong or accuse her. She is not as omnipotent as you say...or else, she won't almost die..."

The Lord Supreme said solemnly, "That is because you are still young and inexperienced. There are many things that you ought to be wary and not be deceived. Ask yourself first, do you think she is truthful to you? That is very important."

Yi Ping muttered, "Is she truthful to me...is she?"

But he quickly regained his composure as he asked, "What if I refuse?"

The Ascension Goddess interrupted sarcastically, "What is wrong with you? Why are you so quick to defend her? We are asking you to seduce her to coerce the truth from her and didn't ask you to go to bed with her. You have a problem with this? Is not like she is not an attractive lady!"

Indeed, Maiden Ziyan was really a most attractive lady and her epitome beauty was indeed extremely breathtaking and not beneath Yixian the Celestial Fairy at all!

However, Yi Ping was most afraid of such beautiful maidens!

The Lord Supreme said, "You have to. The lives of all the Ascendants depend on you."

Yi Ping was puzzled, "What do you mean?"

Yu'Er laughed softly, "My father is saying that you are his successor and a future protégé leader of the Holy Ascension Sect!"

Yi Ping was startled as he stumbled backward!

Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess gasped softly as they looked at Yi Ping!

The Lord Supreme smiled wryly, “However, I am having some doubts now. First, you don’t have the bolder vision and I think that with you in the helm of the Holy Ascension Sect, it is more likely that your consorts will be the ones in charge and that will only bring pandemonium and anarchy to the sect.”

All of a sudden, the Ascension Goddess panicked hugged the arms of Yi Ping, “Whatever you say in future, I will listen alright? I don’t mean to be fierce to you but I am just trying to let you see things from another point of view.”

Shen Xingyue was smiling angelic, “You know, I am the most accommodating to you all the time...”

Mei’Er covered her mouth as she laughed softly, “I am as well!”

Yu’Er’s eyes seemed to be smiling as she looked at Yi Ping tenderly while saying, “When did your Yu’Er says anything that is disagreeable with your heart?”

The Lord Supreme and the Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage stroked their long beards as they secretly smiled; it seemed that these maidens were all afraid that Yi Ping may not be the next Ascendant Supreme Leader and were eager to prove that they were his confidants!

Back to the present, Yi Ping was still sighing softly as he fingered with his wine cup. “This is something that I will never do. I hope that they will understand me...”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping sharp hearings had picked up footsteps approaching his door.

Sure enough, there was a knock on the door.

He had already got up to open the door and was surprised to see that it was actually Feng Mantian who was standing awkwardly outside and he was carrying two jar of wines in his hands.

As soon as Yi Ping had opened the door, Feng Mantian was apologizing respectfully. "Master Yi Ping, I didn't know who you are. I didn't know that the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess are your consorts. I hope that you can put a few words of leniency for me in front of them and...the Lord Supreme..."

He had broken in cold sweat as he looked at Yi Ping.

Yi Ping was smiling bitterly as he said, "That is in the past now. I have forgotten about it already."

Feng Mantian was startled, "Master Yi Ping, you are really willing to put the past behind?"

Yi Ping smiled as he bowed respectfully, "I am really. I hope that you can show me more of the views of the Unmoving Mountains too!"

When Feng Mantian heard that and when he saw the righteousness that was in Yi Ping's eyes, he was comforted; he saw no deceit and saw the sincerity of his heart so he laughed awkwardly, "These two jars of fine wines are for you. I hope Master Yi Ping does not find the quality of the wines poor."

Yi Ping took over the wines as he said, "Even if you don't offer me these wines, I will request for it too! I can already sniff the wonderful fragrances of the wines!"

Feng Mantian laughed as he bowed respectfully, "In that case, I have to go first. I hope that Master Yi Ping will be able to appreciate these fine wines then!"

Yi Ping was startled, "You are drinking with me?"

Feng Mantian said solemnly, "The elders of the sect are dispensing the sect punishments for me at dawn. If I turn up drunk, my punishments will be even more severe. There is surely a next time!"

Yi Ping replied, "Good! Then next time it will be!"

Feng Mantian bade, "I have to take my leave now. Good night!"

Yi Ping lifted his hands to bow respectfully, "Good night!"

Yi Ping closed the door and returned to his seat. But he had barely sat down when there was again a knock on his door!

He thought, "Is it Feng Mantian again? Perhaps he has left in a hurry and forgot to say something important to me."

So his surprise when he had opened the door, he was startled to see Maiden Ziyan standing quietly at the entrance and he could sniff her wonderful fragrance.

But this time she was wearing a pair of long earrings, decorated with an intricate bronze coin at the long end and she was wearing a golden phoenix and peacock dress that had many intricate green golden eyes that were so surreal!

Of course, Yi Ping did not recognize that this Phoenix and Peacock dress was an unearthly material that was even more superior to the Celestium Silk or he would surely be stunned at its origin!

The Goddess Celestial Alice was smiling, "You seem to have good wines in there and I can sniff it from a mile away. Surely you are not thinking of drinking it all by yourself? That will be so distasteful, am I right to say so?"

Yi Ping was really startled to see her and she was the last person that he wanted to see so he quickly said, "Maiden, it is already so late and I am a married man..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice simply slipped past him as she walked into his chamber while explaining aloud, "Your quarters seem to be much better than the one that is assigned to the Erudite Sect and is so spacious."

Yi Ping quickly dashed in front of her as he lifted his hand to say, "Maiden, it is really late now..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice looked at him with a woeful look that immediately caused Yi Ping to take a step back as he asked himself, "Her expressions...did I say something wrong?"

Finally the Goddess Celestial Alice said melancholy, "I am not afraid so

why are you so afraid of your consorts? Maybe in the future, it is prohibited for a man to have more than one consort but not in this time and age!”

She added, “Moreover...”

She smiled, “Even if you want to eat me, you may not have the expertise to do so!”

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly as he said, “True...”

She pointed to the two jars of wines on his table, “So all I want is to drink with you. Is that the way to treat a person that has aided you previously? Where is your sense of righteousness?”

Yi Ping felt a sense of guilt in his heart so he immediately said, “I am wrong. Please have a seat! But I have something to ask you and I hope that you can answer me honestly.”

But he was mindful that he must not get drunk or drink too much. It was because the last time that he got drunk, he had committed a scandalous affair with both Yixian the Celestial Fairy and Ye Yin the Ascension Goddess.

She immediately broke into a jovial smile as she seated herself comfortably, “That is better. We can sit down, drink and talk over it slowly. Don’t you agree?”

Yi Ping nodded as he bowed respectfully with his hands, “That is right...”

She interrupted, “Actually do you think that I am beautiful?”

Yi Ping was startled that she could ask this. He stammered out, “Yes you are...”

She looked at him as she sighed softly, “You really look like him...”

Yi Ping was startled, “Who?”

She replied woefully as she pours herself a cup of wine, “Nothing...”

Yi Ping asked, “Are you really the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?”

She was quiet for a while. After she took a sip of wine, she said. “You don’t believe me?”

Yi Ping sighed softly, “It is not that I don’t believe you but the others are curious to know who you are...”

She smiled, “Hmph, others? Who?”

Yi Ping replied honestly, “The Lord Supreme and many others. They are curious how you got your Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars and the Celestium Silk. This is also my question. How is that you will suddenly become a protégé of the Erudite Sect? I think too that your martial skills are actually much higher than Lady Snowflake.”

She sighed softly, “Then who do you think I am?”

Yi Ping stammered, “I don’t know. You are Maiden Ziyan? No?”

She looked at Yi Ping as she said slowly, “Even you don’t believe me?”

Yi Ping raised both his hands as he said, “I really respect maiden your privacy. If maiden does not feel comfortable to disclose to me who you are, I am sure that you have your reasons for that. I won’t force on you then and will still treat you as a friend though...”

She was quiet for a while before she muttered, “If you know who I am then we may not be friends and things may not be the same again.”

Yi Ping was startled, “How will knowing who you are or your name change anything? We are friends, am I right? It is not like we are enemies?”

She smiled gently, “Maybe. But sometimes people can change because of conflict of interests or to further their own interests. However, I can tell you but you...mustn’t tell anyone?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “I can’t tell anyone?”

She nodded as she asked, “Promise me?”

Yi Ping nodded, “I promise!”

She gave a faint smile and pointed at the Celestial Alice, “Unsheathe

your sword.”

While Yi Ping was puzzled that she had suddenly requested for him to unsheathe his sword, he did so nevertheless. When he did so, there was a rainbow halo that had suddenly brightened the room!

He was startled as he said, “The rainbow halo that has appeared earlier in the hall is back now...”

All of a sudden, she tapped her fingers on the Celestial Alice and the sword began to reverberate nonstop!

Yi Ping was startled as he tried to hold the Celestial Alice firmly in his hands, “This is...what is happening?”

She gave a jovial smile, “The Celestial Alice Divine Sword is overjoyed to see me. That is all.”

Yi Ping was startled, “Why will the Celestial Alice be overjoyed to see you unless the sword is acquainted with you?”

She clapped her hands, “You have guessed it. You are so smart...”

Yi Ping began to ponder, “The Celestial Alice belongs to the Immortal Saint of Swords. Don’t tell me that you are his daughter?”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping received a quick kick from under the table from her as she said exasperating, “I am taking back what I have just said about you!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly...

She looked at Yi Ping, “They didn’t tell you anything?”

Yi Ping began to stare at the Celestial Alice as he recalled that the Lord Supreme had told him that she may be the Goddess Celestial Alice...

But Yi Ping shook his head, “Surely you are not the Goddess Celestial Alice. That is impossible...”

She sighed softly as she rose quietly, “Ziyan is not my real name. I am indeed the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Ninth Heavens, the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Three Known Realms and in the lower realm, I am

known as the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Seven Stars. You need not guess further; the Celestial Alice is indeed named after me and I am her true mistress until I have sealed her.”

All of a sudden, there was a flicker in her eyes and her presence became imposing!

Yi Ping was stunned as he felt the awe of her presence, “You are really the Goddess Celestial Alice? You have sealed the Celestial Alice?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice nodded slowly, “That is right. And you are the one that has broken the seal of the Celestial Alice and have awakened me from my deep slumber. That is why the Astronomic Stellar Formation has descended upon you and that is why I have brought you to me.”

Yi Ping shook his head in disbelief, “But I don’t understand. What is the reason that you want to take away your own life?”

Yi Ping seemed to hit the crux of her heart; she stumbled slightly backward with blank expressions while muttering, “That is because...”

The Goddess Celestial Alice inhaled deeply, “...I have promised someone. If someone can awaken the Celestial Alice then I will destroy the Astronomic Stellar Formation on my own accord....”

Yi Ping clenched his fists and his eyes were burning with fury, “That someone! He is too cruel to ask you to do such a thing! You have almost perished inside because of that!”

The Goddess Celestial Alice turned around while muttering, “Is that so? I don’t think so.”

Then she turned around and looked quietly at him, “That is because he is right here now.”

Yi Ping gasped aloud as he grabbed the Celestial Alice as he started to look around the surroundings for sight of moving shadows, “Where?! Is he outside?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice sighed softly but she quickly smiled and said to him, “I am...just teasing you!”

Yi Ping heaved a soft sigh as he calmed down, "I have thought that is real..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice looked at him keenly before she asked him, "Now that is my turn to ask you some questions. Is that fair?"

Yi Ping asked, "If there is anything that I can answer, I will surely answer you!"

The Goddess Celestial Alice gave a soft clap as she asked him softly, "Why did you kiss me in front of many others in the Golden Ascension Hall earlier? You did that intentionally?"

Yi Ping was stunned at her question!

He began to fluster as he finally stammered out, "I...I...that is really an accident..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice said unhappily, "Really? Do you know that you have ruined my reputation in front of so many others! How am I going to lift my head in front of others in the future?"

Yi Ping realized his unforgivable folly so he bowed down, "Maiden Ziyan, I...beg for your forgiveness. If there is anything that you want me to do to atone for it, I will surely do it if it is something that I am able to do!"

The Goddess Celestial Alice stomped her foot lightly, "Maiden Ziyan? You still think that I am Maiden Ziyan? Do you know that only death can atone for what you did to my sacred body?"

Yi Ping was trembling as he muttered, "I know I did wrong..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice interrupted coldly, "So you are afraid of death?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he sighed softly, "I am not afraid of death personally! I am afraid that after I am gone, the rest of my love ones may not find the will to live!"

The Goddess Celestial Alice hummed coldly, "That is only your excuse. Do you think that I didn't hear your conversations with the Lord

Supreme? They really think that they are in a secure room but they have forgotten who I am. So, they have asked you to seduce me and to check who I am?”

Yi Ping was stunned, “You have overheard? I didn’t agree...”

The Goddess Celestial Alice said coldly, “You didn’t agree but your heart has already secretly agreed. All this so that you can become the next Ascendant Supreme Leader, am I right to say so?”

Yi Ping said weakly, “That is not my intention at all.”

All of a sudden a thought struck him as he asked, “If maiden you have already known about the intentions of the Lord Supreme, why then are you here to tell that me that you are the Goddess Celestial Alice? Isn’t that as good as telling the Lord Supreme?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice whispered softly, “That is because dead man tells no tales...”

Yi Ping was startled but he quickly regained his composure as he said, “I won’t fight with you. If you want to fight with me, you won’t tell me who you are and don’t have to give me a chance to know...”

The Goddess Celestial Alice suddenly said coldly, “That is when you are wrong!”

She had suddenly raised her hand against him!

Yi Ping raised his hand instinctively to block her and in a blink of an eye, they had exchanged a dozen furious blows!

In an instant, the table and chairs were totally wrecked and shattered in all directions by the sheer execution of their martial forces!

Yi Ping was gasping, “Maiden Ziyan, please stop. I don’t want to fight you whether you are the Goddess Celestial Alice or not. It is because who you are don’t mean anything to me...”

All of a sudden, the Goddess Celestial Alice had lurched forward as she kissed him gently on his lips, stunning him!

That was a move that he had no defense and he was not anticipating

that!

Before Yi Ping had realized it, they were soon embracing and he could sniff her enticing fragrance of her body as they rolled onto the ground!

The Goddess Celestial Alice whispered softly, "I have taken my vengeance now but don't you think that it is too light a punishment for you?"

Yi Ping was gasping because she had suddenly bit him on his neck, drawing blood and her fingers had scratched deep into his back!

The Goddess Celestial Alice said, "Even if your wounds can heal immediately but I can assure you that your scars will remain..."

Yi Ping was gasping and he had turned extremely flustered, "Maiden Ziyan, you...are not taking my life?"

She had got up and there were tears in her eyes, "Why should I? Without you, I may have already perished in the aftermath of the collapse of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. It is because of you that I have found the will to live again. The one that should atone for my past deeds is me and not you. I hope that you will forgive me for what I have done in the past..."

All of a sudden she gave an alluring smile, "At first I thought that you are just an unscrupulous man. So I give you a few tests along the way. But it seems that your devotions for your consorts are sincere while mine can never be reciprocated..."

Yi Ping was bewildered, "The one that should apologize is me and not you. We are already friends, isn't that enough? "

She had suddenly touched the Celestial Alice Divine Sword; all of a sudden a rainbow halo burst forth brightly in all directions as she muttered, "Yi Ping, the last binding seal of the Celestial Alice is now unsealed. If you want to find me, you must ascend the Stellar Sanctuary or look for me in the Immortal Realm of the Ninth Heavens. I will be at the Eternal City that is beyond time reckoning. You must come..."

Yi Ping was startled, "You are leaving?"

The Goddess Celestial Alice nodded with a woeful look at him, “Even if I wait for you for a thousand years, you must come. My time here is almost up. Remember your pledge not to tell anyone who I am...”

Yi Ping said panicky, “Wait. You are really leaving?”

The Goddess Celestial Alice gave a soft sigh, “You don’t want to retain me so why would you stop me from leaving? If you want to make atonements to me or when you have remember who I am, then come to the Eternal City. I will be there...”

Yi Ping was befuddled as he muttered, “Isn’t the Immortal Realm inaccessible? No one has ever ascended to the Immortal Realm except for the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos...”

But before Yi Ping could ask her further or to stop her, she had already made a tearful dash out of the room and her last words were, “You mustn’t forget about me and must come!”

After some time, Yi Ping regained his composure as he staggered backward as he looked at the shimmering blade of the Celestial Alice while muttering. “The Goddess Celestial Alice...the Eternal City beyond time reckoning...the Immortal Realm...are you really the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

All of a sudden, Yi Ping had a spinning headache that caused him to collapse flat onto the ground. In his unconscious state, he was muttering. “Dragon Maiden Alice...”

Chapter 119: The Stellar Sanctuary

In his dreams, Yi Ping found himself surrounded by beautiful rolling hills and he was lying in the lush green grasslands as the cool winds blew gently.

The skies above were a bright golden and not the blue skies that he was accustomed to. The air was extremely cool and there were rainbows from one rolling hills to the other!

He was dressed in a black robe embroiled with intricate golden dragons with five claws. And beside him was an enticing breathtaking maiden in partial nudity; her white gold lingerie was adorned with golden phoenixes and she had a shimmering faint golden aura around her.

When he turned around to look closely at her face, this enticing maiden had turned around too.

His curiosity turned to shock when he had suddenly recognized this enticing intriguing maiden as Maiden Ziyan!

Her face was Maiden Ziyan but her long silvery hair was not!

And even her eyes were a purple crimson and not pure golden!

This caused Yi Ping to break into cold sweat and he was somber all of a sudden.

He found himself in a soft feathery bed and his mind was in a blank as he thought, "Why is it her?"

All of a sudden, he was even more startled when he found himself surrounded by all his consorts who were all calling out joyous to him at the same time!

Yi Ping was in a daze as he muttered, "What is going on. Why are you all?"

Lele immediately said, "You have been unconscious for three days. We are so worried for you!"

Yu'Er added, "When we come into your bed chamber, the entire

chamber is in a mess. At first we have thought that something terrible has happened to you...”

Youxue nodded tearfully, “And there is blood on your neck and body too! I wonder who the vicious person that did that to you...”

Yunzi said anxiously, “When we tried to wake you up and couldn’t, we have thought that you may be poisoned. Even the Lord Supreme can’t do a thing. We are worried sick for you...”

Yi Ping was startled as he asked, “I have been unconscious for three days? What is going on?”

Mei’Er clapped happily, “Master Yi Ping, you have finally woke up! Who is the one that assault you? We will settle the score with the assailants for you!”

Yi Ping stammered, “No one. I have a fall...”

Lie Qing raised her eyebrows, “No one? You had a fall? Then who was the one that gave you a bite on your neck and scratched you?”

The Ascension Goddess yawned, “And that Maiden Ziyan seemed to have disappeared at the same time when we had discovered you. Isn’t that a weird thing?”

Youxue said coldly, “I say, she must be the one that have bitten Yi Ping!”

Yi Ping became flustered and smiled bitterly, “Xue’Er, you mustn’t say...”

But he was soon stammering and could not continue!

Youxue retorted, “Mustn’t what? You mean I mustn’t mouth rubbish? Look at you! You can’t even lie properly!”

Yi Ping became even more flustered!

Yu’Er smiled weakly, “So it is really her! Sisters, so you all know now! How vicious of her!”

Mei’Er was almost closed to her tears, “She has left you with such a bad scar. She is like a vampire with fangs like this!”

Yixian was got up quietly as she headed towards the entrance!

Lele was startled, "Sister Xian'Er, where are you going?"

Yixian stopped at the doorstep as she lowered her glance, "I...I am going to find her! Surely there must be some misunderstandings that have caused her to disappear just like this."

Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue got up at the same time as they said together, "Sister Xian'Er, I will go with you..."

Lingfeng and Shen Xingyue looked at each other in surprise. They were both pondering quietly earlier and had spoken out together at the same time when they had heard of Yixian's intentions!

The Ascension Goddess raised her eyebrows, "Hmph? I have thought that you are going to find her to settle a score with her. Why are you looking for her..."

Yixian replied gently as she looked at Yi Ping, "Since Ping'Er did not raise a ruckus I don't see it as my duty to do the same. However, I see no reason to cast doubt on Maiden Ziyang at all so I am going to look for her to clarify things. She didn't harm us while we are at the Astronomic Stellar Formation, am I right to say so? At most, we can only accuse her of hiding things but everyone have their own secrets. It is not for us to force others to reveal their secrets to us."

Lingfeng sighed softly, "That is right..."

Shen Xingyue said quietly, "Let's go and find her now."

The Ascension Goddess lifted her arms as she looked at Shen Xingyue in bewilderment, "Have you forgotten what the Lord Supreme has said to us? If she is the one then she will surely cause an upheaval in the Celestial Realm!"

Youxue interrupted coldly, "Who is she? I thought we are sisters and the two of you are hiding something from us?"

Shen Xingyue lifted her eyes slowly as she answered softly, "The Lord Supreme forbids any one of us to reveal that the suspect is the Goddess Celestial Alice. But so what if she is the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

The Ascension Goddess muttered to herself, "So what if she is the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

Lele was curious, "She is really the Goddess Celestial Alice huh? I have thought she has denied it?"

Lie Qing was in disbelief, "She is really the Goddess Celestial Alice? Her name is the same as the divine sword that Yi Ping is holding?"

Even Yunzi was startled and was looking at Shen Xingyue for answers...

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped, "The Goddess Celestial Alice...the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars...so the legends are real? She really is the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

Yu'Er said, "We have no real proof that she is the Goddess Celestial Alice and she didn't acknowledge it either. That is just our suspicious."

Mei'Er sniffed, "We are not supposed to mention anything about the Goddess Celestial Alice at all lest it brings disaster upon us."

Youxue hummed coldly, "So that is what you have been hiding from us. Now that you have become the Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect, your status is different now and you don't feel like sharing with us anymore."

Mei'Er quickly tugged Youxue as she tried to pacify her, "My good sister Youxue! You know we don't mean to hide anything from the other sisters. We are only suspecting and have not gotten any proof yet. Moreover, that is only a legend."

Yu'Er quickly nodded, "That's right..."

Yi Ping said all of a sudden, "Who she really is, is not important. She is free to do whatever she is entitled to. That is her freedom. We have no right to interfere..."

Yixian muttered, "Ping'Er..."

All of a sudden, the entire room began to shake violently as though it had been struck by a violent earthquake and the skies outside seemed to have turned extremely ominous dark even though it was noon at this

hour!

Yi Ping and the other maidens were startled!

The Ascension Goddess was the first to recover as she called out panicky to everyone, "Come! Everyone, to the outside!"

Lingfeng lifted her fingers to divine the sudden happening as she moved her fingers rapidly, "Earth changes! Heavens is in upheavals. A major celestial event is going to happen soon!"

Yi Ping immediately nodded as he hurried picked up the Celestial Alice as he called out loud, "Everyone, out of the room!"

All the maidens immediately nodded or replied their approvals to him as they immediately bolted out of the room!

The outside of Yi Ping's resting chamber faced a gigantic stone platform that was overlooking the majestic Unmoving Mountains. It was one of the best viewing places to view the scenic Unmoving Mountains at the Holy Ascension Sect and it was only reserved for honorable guests.

But today, the scenic view of the Unmoving Mountains had become gloomy and covered with dark clouds. A gigantic black dome that was shaped like a bell was descending slowly from the dark clouds above as nebulous filaments of effulgence created by circular lightning bolts crackled and rained around it!

Thousands of celestial practitioners were already bolting out from the dozens of buildings that were along the mountain perches to witness the arrival of the Stellar Sanctuary, an event that was so mysterious that no one was able to predict its actual coming!

The entire Unmoving Mountains was shaking violently as rocks crumbled down the steep cliffs even as the Stellar Sanctuary began its slow descend!

Yi Ping was stunned as he looked into the dark heavens above as he muttered, "This is...the Stellar Sanctuary?"

The Ascension Goddess was awestruck as well as she muttered, "Yes,

this is the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Lingfeng the Heaveness gasped softly as she began to tremble lightly, “Even though I have been to the Stellar Sanctuary a few times but I have never witnessed its actual descend from the Immortal Realm. This is my first time...”

Yi Ping was muttering as he stared in disbelief at the massive dome that was descending slowly. It was as huge as a mountain and the ends could not be seen!

He stammered out, “This...the Stellar Sanctuary is so massive...”

Lingfeng nodded as she turned pale, “That is right. If you think that the Astronomic Stellar Formation is huge and that this Stellar Sanctuary looks massive on the outside, then you will be surprised how vast the inside is!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy asked curiously, “How big is the inside?”

Lingfeng muttered softly, stunning and causing disbelief from everyone as she announced it. “As big as the entire Celestial Realm. It is a world within a world inside. Whether it is a hallucination or a reality, I really do not know...”

Yunzi was expressionless as she looked at the floating Stellar Sanctuary while muttering, “Or we shrink when we are inside.”

Yu’Er said quietly, “Or the Stellar Sanctuary is actually a gateway to the Immortal Realm. Once we step inside, we are actually already entering the infinity realm of the Immortal Realm...”

Lie Qing sighed softly, “Somehow I got an uneasy feeling...”

The Ascension Goddess looked at Lie Qing and she looked at her Despairing Heaven Divine Sword, “Is that my imagination or I am feeling the same as you?”

Lie Qing looked at her Perpetual Darkness as she looked at her, “This sense of uneasiness seems to have come from our divine swords...”

The Ascension Goddess nodded slowly but before she could continue

further, the Universal Old Man was shouting for them as he came into view.

He was shouting excitedly amidst all the commotions from the thousands of celestial practitioners as he ran towards them from afar, “Did you see that?! That is the Stellar Sanctuary! We are finally going to have a head start!”

Lingfeng gave him a sharp look as she whispered softly, “Keep your voice low. You don’t want the Lord Supreme to hear that especially we have his daughters and Supreme Celestials here with us.”

The Universal Old Man looked at Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Shen Xingyue and the Ascension Goddess as he laughed, “I know that they won’t betray me.”

He quickly looked at Yi Ping with a sly look, “My protégé. This is our callings. This is the day that we can fulfill our destiny. Imagine the head start that we can have...”

Yu’Er hummed coldly, “Grandmaster, the Lord Supreme forbids anyone to enter the Stellar Sanctuary on their own accord. We should wait and listen to the views of the assembly first...”

The Universal Old Man said unhappily as he raised his voice in the strong winds, “Your father, the Lord Supreme wants to deal with the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect first. But that is their affairs and not mine...”

He had purposely said it aloud because he had caught sight of the Lord Supreme, Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage and Reverend Sword Pilgrim on the platform that was opposite them and knew that they could hear him!

At this moment, the winds were blowing so strongly that small trees were being uprooted and the massive earthquakes were shaking the earth so violently that the cracks along the imposing white celestium structures of the buildings were spreading fast!

Only a few hundred of the celestial practitioners with the martial foundation could still dare to stand near the edge of the platform even as the lightning bolts were that encircling the massive Stellar Sanctuary

were zapping the edge with powerful explosive strikes!

Yixian had just raised her Divine Emerald Skill as she deflected a lightning bolt with her martial force as she cried out softly, “Watch out!”

At the same time, Yi Ping, the Ascension Goddess, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Youxue and Yunzi had also exercised their martial force to assist Yixian to deflect the incoming lightning bolt.

Lie Qing, Shen Xingyue, Lele, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lingfeng and the Universal Old Man combined their martial force together as they deflected another lightning bolt!

Yixian said softly, “We can’t stay here anymore. It has become too dangerous!”

Yi Ping said aloud as he increased his martial power to steady himself, “Let move back to a safer place.”

At the same time, the Lord Supreme was resounding with his Thousand Miles Resonant Divine Skill to all the celestial practitioners, “Gather and assembly everyone to the Golden Ascension Hall now!”

Chapter 120: The New Leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan

The Golden Ascension Hall was even more crowded than the last time that Yi Ping was there. Previously there were just more than a thousand celestial practitioners but this time, there were more than ten celestial practitioners!

This time it did not matter if the celestial practitioners were true celestial practitioners or dark celestial practitioners; they were all allowed inside!

Even though the assembly was numerous but they could all still fit into the Golden Ascension Hall comfortably!

Yi Ping had immediately recognized Lady Snowflake and her clan protégés.

He sighed softly as he walked past her as he walked toward his seating arrangements. It was because Maiden Ziyang was no longer there; he had known that she was not there but somehow he continued to steal a glance in the directions of the veiled maidens of the Erudite Sect hoping that she was there.

The hall was already buzzing with loud activities when he had entered it. There were still many newly arrivals to the Golden Ascension Hall by the time he was seated comfortably. He even had the time to meditate and circulate his vital energies throughout all his energy channels once.

It was because there were still many celestial practitioners that were outside that were overwhelmed by the sight of the gigantic Stellar Sanctuary that were slowly descending from the dark heavens and were reluctant to take their eyes away from it.

Finally the Lord Supreme, accompanied by Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage, Reverend Sword Pilgrim, Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You had arrived at the Golden Ascension Hall as nearly three thousands Ascendant protégés began to shout fervently, "Hail the

Ascendant Supreme Leader. Long live the Ascendant Supreme Leader! Long live the Lord Supreme! May the eternal flames of the Ascendant Fire never extinguish and all the songs of heavens echo the deeds of the Holy Ascension Sect!”

The Universal Old Man hummed coldly as he looked at Lingfeng the Heaveness, “This old man. He just feels gratified with all these praises. I say; as soon as the heavenly gates of the Stellar Sanctuary are opened, let’s us storm the Stellar Sanctuary as soon as possible before the others can have the chance to grab the immortal treasures of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Lingfeng smiled gently as she winked at Yi Ping, “You can go by yourself. I can afford to wait.”

The Universal Old Man was stumped for words as he stammered, “My Heaveness! Surely not! We have never fought alone but as always as a group. Now there are only the two of us left. Surely you are not thinking of leaving me alone...”

Lingfeng the Heaveness groaned softly as her alluring eyes flashed with amusements, “Why are you in such a hurry? You have just overcome your major heavenly tribulation and can now afford to wait. You will probably outlive the Lord Supreme now.”

The Universal Old Man wanted to protest something but all of a sudden, he began to stroke his long beard as he began to finger his rosy cheek. “Well, that is true...”

All of a sudden, Mei’Er had given him a step on his foot which caused him to look up to her as he asked. “What is the matter?”

Mei’Er replied gently, “Grandmaster, the Lord Supreme is my father! Why can’t you put aside your rivalries and work together as one?”

The Universal Old Man sighed softly as he looked at the Heaveness and towards the hundreds of celestial clans that were in the Golden Ascension Hall, “Can I? Even if I can, what about these celestial clans? Do you think that they are here willingly? They are just here to partake in the immortal treasures of the Stellar Sanctuary and of course by now, they know very

well that the Holy Ascension Sect needs them more than they need the Holy Ascension Sect to avert a major conflict with the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect...”

Suddenly, he muttered. “Let me take a little sip of these fine Ascendant Wines first.”

He gulped a cup of wine before continuing, “You are new to the Celestial Realm. Do you have an idea how powerful the Martial Deviant Clan or even the Celestial Aiel Sect is? They have hundreds of celestial clans under their spheres of influence and have dozens of super celestial fighters. Among them are naturally some of the old and new seven most powerful celestial fighters. That is aside from the top hundred celestial fighters list!”

He smiled bitterly, “These are just the ranked fighters but there are also the unranked fighters who are like the Immortal Saint of Swords whose state of divinities is so secret that there are no survivors to report their current state of attainment!”

The Universal Old Man looked at Mei’Er and Yu’Er as he put forth a question, “And guess what? Even if they know that they will suffer excessive losses by coming here, they will still dare to come! It is all because of the Stellar Sanctuary! It is a temptation that will cause everyone to lose their sanity!”

He took another gulp of wine as he said, “Therefore, we must seize the opportunity to reach the furthest ends of the Stellar Sanctuary before all these people!”

He looked at Yi Ping, “My protégé, this is for your own good and for your future. We must secure as many immortal treasures as possible to prepare for our next ascension!”

Yi Ping began to tremble lightly as he smiled weakly.

Yu’Er nodded slowly as she said gently, “This is a major conflict that cannot be avoided. This is also a major conflict that will put an end to this era and bring forth another new era. I can’t say if the next era will be better than the present but the Holy Ascension Sect at least represents

the orthodox celestial clans and cannot afford to lose this battle.”

Lingfeng sighed softly as she said quietly, “The Holy Ascension Sect will not only lose but will be destroyed as well.”

Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and all the maidens were startled as they all looked at her!

The Ascension Goddess gasped, “My Heaveness, is this your prediction? Is this real?”

In the Celestial Realm, the Heaveness was known for her uncanny divination and Lingfeng had now re-opened her Heaven Eyes, enabling the full potential of her Heaven Eyes Divine Skill again!

Lingfeng smiled weakly, “Don’t look at me like this. It is just a little thought and my own conclusion. If you analyze the strengths of the Holy Ascension Sect, the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Clan, you will know that they are almost equivalent in strength and influence. That is why none of these three major celestial clans dare to provoke each other openly lest the other major factions take advantage of their situations to overtake them.”

Yunzi gasped, “That is right! If they dare to come to the stronghold of the Holy Ascension Sect, they are virtually courting their own doom but yet they will still dare to come. It is because the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect have already joined hands and made an alliance to attack the Holy Ascension Sect!”

Lingfeng smiled gently, “That is a strong possibility that we must not overlook. Even if the celestial formations of the Holy Ascension Sect are formidable but the combined strength of the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect cannot be underestimated!”

Youxue said quietly, “And with so many celestial practitioners here, we cannot dismiss the possibility that their spies are already here. After all, it is the oldest trick in the books to plant an informant in the opposing clan. And among these hundreds of clans here, there are a few clans here that are already working for the interests of the Martial Deviant Clan or the Celestial Aiel Sect.”

Yunzi laughed softly, "That's right. It is an outcome that is only too certain."

All the other sisters and the Universal Old Man were impressed with the analysis of the situation by Youxue, Yunzi and Lingfeng while Yi Ping was smiling weakly as he thought, "This is a common stratagem of the Virtuous Palace? I will never have thought of this..."

All of a sudden, the Universal Old Man interrupted his thoughts as he asked him. "Ping'Er, what do you think? Should we steal a march on them by entering the Stellar Sanctuary first?"

He quickly added, "And of course the Heavens has to agree too."

Lingfeng gave a wryly smile, "Why must you always drag me into these misadventures? And why are you in such a hurry to enter the Stellar Sanctuary? The gates won't open for another thirty days!"

Yi Ping broke into cold sweat as he tried his best not to laugh at his protégé master, exercising his Absolute Spirits as he recited his Emptiness Translucence in his heart while thinking, "Why is that Lingfeng always have the humor to make light of any situations. I should really learn from her and be light spirited as well or I will never attain past my Emptiness Translucence to the Great Emptiness Translucence."

Mei'Er laughed jovially as she winked at Lingfeng, "You see old man! Even your compatriot refuses to aid you!"

The Universal Old Man lowered his voice into a whisper as though he was afraid of getting overheard, "You know that I need you or I will be lost in the maze of the Stellar Sanctuary..."

Lingfeng interrupted softly as she said to the Universal Old Man solemnly, "That is enough already. If you say some more, you will really be in trouble. Don't forget, what you see in the Stellar Sanctuary is forbidden to the others."

The Universal Old Man broke into a cold sweat as he muttered, "That is right. Lucky you have reminded me."

Yi Ping asked, "What is it that you can't share with us?"

The Universal Old Man and Lingfeng the Heaveness said at the same time, "It is forbidden."

It startled Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens as they looked at each other.

Youxue hummed coldly, "Now it is your turn to be mysterious. My dear sisters, these people have so many secrets to hide!"

Lingfeng said gently as she smiled alluringly at Youxue, "Dear sister, you will soon know when you are at the Stellar Sanctuary. If we reveal it to you now, we will only endanger everyone."

Yi Ping was startled, "It is so serious?"

The Universal Old Man nodded solemnly, "That is right. Extremely serious..."

He quickly changed the topic by asking Yi Ping, "My protégé, answer my question first. Do you want to go to the Stellar Sanctuary?"

Yi Ping nodded slowly before he answered quietly, "No matter what, I will want to reach the highest level of the Stellar Sanctuary..."

He had his own reasons. It was because Maiden Ziyan made him promise her that he would seek her out. Somehow, she was a mystery that seemed to be drawing him and there were still many things that he had not asked her yet. He was worried that she may be in mortal danger and through his Emptiness Translucence, he knew that she was hiding a woeful past and she was afraid of telling him so!

This time, it was the Universal Old Man and the rest of his consorts who were stunned by his reply!

Lingfeng smiled weakly, "It is impossible to accomplish in three months unless you really know the formations of the Stellar Sanctuary intimately. Even for me, it is always a time consuming effort to decipher the formations of the Stellar Sanctuary."

By now, the Lord Supreme had walked to the throne seat as the shouts of the thousands of Ascendant protégés grew louder and louder with their

proclamations, “Hail the Ascendant Supreme Leader. Long live the Ascendant Supreme Leader! Long live the Lord Supreme! May the eternal flames of the Ascendant Fire never extinguish and all the songs of heavens echo the deeds of the Holy Ascension Sect!”

The Lord Supreme silenced the Ascendant protégés with a wave of his hand and then proceeded to silence the rest of the celestial clans with his martial shout via the Thousand Mile Resonate Divine Skill, “The Stellar Sanctuary has descended sooner than we have anticipated but the time is about just right. All the omens have pointed to the Unmoving Mountains. If it is not for the fact that the Holy Ascension Sect is situated at the top of the Unmoving Mountains, we will never have correctly guessed when the Stellar Sanctuary is going to appear!”

All the celestial protégé leaders and elders of the various celestial clans were slowly silenced as they waited for the Lord Supreme to make his announcements. They were not interested in the agenda of the Holy Ascension Sect. Rather, they were more interested in pursuing their own agendas. For most of the allied celestial clans, they were wary that the Holy Ascension Sect would use them as cannon fodders and denied them the opportunities to gain access to the Stellar Sanctuary!

The Lord Supreme knew what they were thinking and knew what they were afraid of as he said, “The Stellar Sanctuary only descends once every few centuries. Most of the celestial practitioners here have never been to the Stellar Sanctuary before, let alone witness the exact appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary. For me, this is the first time too that I am witnessing its actual appearance.”

He waved his hand as he looked keenly at everyone and his hegemony aura were extremely unnerving, “Some of you may be wondering why I am holding you here instead of storming the Stellar Sanctuary right away. You must be wondering why we are holding an assembly here instead. That is because we can still afford to wait. For those that did not know; the celestial seals of the Stellar Sanctuary will only disappear after thirty days. Therefore until the celestial seals have vanished, the twenty-four celestial gates of the Stellar Sanctuary will remain close. There is nothing

we can do until then.”

Immediately, there were loud mutterings among the celestial practitioners who numbered in the ten thousands!

“There are twenty-four celestial gates to the Stellar Sanctuary?! Which gate should we go after first?”

“We have to wait thirty days? Is this a trick?”

“So a fight with the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect is now imminent?”

For the majority of the minor celestial clans, they knew that only the major orthodox celestial clans could ask these questions boldly in front of the Lord Supreme.

Old Hare, the patriarch of the Mythical Seal Clan was the first to interrupt, “Do we really have to wait for thirty days?”

The Lord Supreme said solemnly, “That is true. You can ask the Heaveness if she is aware of it.”

Lingfeng the Heaveness hummed coldly but she said via her Thousand Miles Resonant Divine Skill, “It is true. All in all, the Stellar Sanctuary will only stay in the Celestial Realm for a full four months before it vanishes completely. The thirty days are for those that know astrology or for those that possess a certain level of divine attainment to divine the coming of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords said solemnly via his Thousand Miles Resonant Divine Skill as he echoed loudly, “That is the case and is indisputable. I, however have a question for the Lord Supreme.”

Only the Immortal Saint of Swords had the tenacity to question the Lord Supreme for he was an ancient celestial and as powerful as him!

The Lord Supreme raised his hand, “You may ask!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed with his martial shout, “So the plan is to lie in wait for the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect first? After finishing them, the next stop will be the Stellar

Sanctuary?”

The Lord Supreme said, “That’s right!”

The Immortal Saint of Swords laughed, “We are all supposed to be allies but in actual fact, that is all in name only. When has the Holy Ascension Sect ever helps the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan?”

He rose up as he pointed to Shen Xingyue, “As you are all aware, the Blue Heavens Divine Sword is the heritage divine sword of the Infinity Sword Clan. But it is now in the hands of a protégé of the Holy Ascension Sect now. You have seized the holy artifact of our clan and killed the Immortal Sword Aegis Sage who is the celestial leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. This is a blood debt that can’t be forgiven so easily. Yet, you are asking the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan to join hands with you? Is there such an outrageous thing ever?”

The Lord Supreme said, “So unless this blood debt is settled, there is no chance for the Infinity Sword Celestial Sword to join hands with the Holy Ascension Sect?”

The Immortal Saint of Swords replied as he stared piercingly at Shen Xingyue and Yi Ping, “That is right. And I have heard that your daughters have married the Domain Lord of the Tranquil City. This Lord of the Tranquil City, this Yi Ping has stolen another of my divine sword and it is on his back now. With so much grievous on the table, can you still expect the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan to give aid you? Is there such a ridiculous thing, outrageous thing in the entire fraternity?”

He raised his hands towards the heavens as he said aloud, “The Holy Ascension Sect has a saying if I am not mistaken. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth for those that dare to defy the Holy Ascension Sect! If the Holy Ascension Sect has such a rule, do you think the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan did not have a similar rule too? Especially to the thefts of our two divine swords!”

The Lord Supreme replied calmly, “You are right. In that case, you should look for them to settle your clan’s grievous pride and not the Holy Ascension Sect.”

He turned to look at Shen Xingyue, “The Dark Enchantress and the Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect. From now onward, you are expelled from the Holy Ascension Sect and free to go. What happens to you afterwards, is none of the affairs of the Holy Ascension Sect.”

Yu’Er and Mei’Er gasped. They had never expected that the Lord Supreme would expel her from the Holy Ascension Clan!

Even the Ascension Goddess was shocked but she quickly regained her composure as she used her Divine Whisperer on Shen Xingyue, “Maybe that is the best thing that can happen to you.”

Shen Xingyue was composed as she bowed with her hands toward the Lord Supreme, “Thank you! I am grateful to the Holy Ascension Sect for my upbringings and years of guidance! This is something that I won’t be able to forget!”

Yi Ping was startled that Shen Xingyue was able to take the blow of being expelled in such a calm manner as he murmured, “Xing’Er, are you really alright?”

Shen Xingyue smiled angelically, “Of course I am. Don’t you worry too much!”

Unknown to everyone, the Lord Supreme and Shen Xingyue had a secret conversation together. The Lord Supreme knew that the Immortal Saint of Swords would not co-operate so readily with the Holy Ascension Sect and the alliance was fragile in the first place.

So he suggested to Shen Xingyue, “This will be hard for you to accept and a loss to the Holy Ascension Sect. But I ask that you regard this matter as crucial to the survival of the sect.”

Shen Xingyue replied coolly, “Whatever it is, I will accept it...”

The Lord Supreme said, “Good! Are you prepared to be expelled from the Holy Ascension Sect?”

Shen Xingyue was startled as she stammered, “Lord Supreme, I...this is...”

But in the end, she had agreed reluctantly to have her name removed from the Golden Ascension Hall of the Holy Ascension Sect!

Back to the present, the Lord Supreme continued as he said to the Immortal Saint of Swords. “Do you agree that this is now between the Tranquil City and the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan?”

The Immortal Saint of Swords hummed coldly, “Not so easy. Do you think that we will aid the Holy Ascension Sect just because of that?”

Shen Xingyue rose up courageous as she smiled to Yi Ping, “So dearest Immortal Saint of Swords, what do you want then? Have you forgotten that we have a past duel to decide the ownership of the Blue Heavens in the Celestial Realm? So why are you still going after me relentlessly. I know I am attractive but seriously, I am already happily married to Yi Ping.”

Yi Ping was flustered all of a sudden as he averted her angelic glance and the stares of the other maidens!

When she had said that, the celestial practitioners in the Golden Ascension Hall were all bursting out with laughter!

The Deadly Wanderer was sighing softly, “A pity alas!”

Ouyang Feipeng the Windy Blade of the Wind Chimes Sect was also sighing pitifully as did many of the celestial practitioners.

It was because each of the celestial practitioners believed that they were better than Yi Ping who gave everyone the impression that he was an impulsive and clumsy fellow!

In terms of looks, clan prestige, knowledge, achievements, fame, and cultural superiority, they were his superior!

The Immortal Saint of Swords asked aloud, “So what do I want? That will be for the Lord of the Tranquil City to say, am I right to say so?”

Yi Ping leapt from the top of the platform, drawing out the Celestial Alice as he thrust it into the ground with a brilliant burst of light and earthshaking shockwave, “This is the Celestial Alice Divine Sword. If you

can pull it up, then it is yours to take!”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage immediately jumped down from the platform with a martial shout as they quickly attempted to seize the Celestial Alice!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage exercised his entire martial power as he shouted, “Be sure to keep your word!”

But to his utter disbelief, once again he had failed to pull the Celestial Alice from the ground!

The last time he had thought that it was because he was injured therefore he was not able to fully utilize his internal strength. With his level of attainment in the Infinitude Recite and his oneness with the Sword Spirit, he could not believe that he could not even move the Celestial Alice by even an inch with all his martial strength!

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage too broke into cold sweat as he tried to help the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage but even with their combined martial strength, the Celestial Alice refused to move!

The Immortal Sword Zealot Sage shouted as he raised his sword fingers, “Protégé brother, step aside first!”

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage nodded as he stepped aside.

At the same time, the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage bombarded the ground underneath the Celestial Alice with bursts of sword energies as he shouted, “If I cannot move you, surely I can destroy the ground underneath you and pull you out then!”

But while he was saying that, the Celestial Alice shone even more brilliantly as it sunk into the ground even further!

Lingfeng had stepped forward with a sudden white flash, instantly creating astonishments from the many celestial practitioners with her sudden reflexes and swiftness movement speed!

She said quietly, “It is futile. Even I am unable to pull the Celestial Alice from the ground. The Celestial Alice only acknowledges her true master

and her master is Yi Ping. So what can you do with a sword that you can't even take away? You must know that I am the Heaveness, the equal to the Immortal Saint of Swords and the Lord Supreme."

Yi Ping muttered, "Lingfeng..."

Lingfeng continued, "So why don't we think of a perfect solution and works toward a peaceful end? If the Holy Ascension Sect is destroyed by the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect, I don't see how it is going to benefit the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan and the orthodox celestial clans at large?"

The Immortal Sword Blitz Sage and the Immortal Sword Zealot Sage looked at each other with a soft sigh before they looked at the Immortal Saint of Swords for an answer.

The Immortal Saint of Swords nodded slowly as he remained standing unfaltering on the platform.

Lie Qing looked at the Universal Old Man as she whispered, "That's weird, isn't it? How come they seem to more willing to accede to the Heaveness than to you?"

The Universal Old Man smiled bitterly.

Lele was curious too, "That is right!"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said, "Perhaps I can answer it. The Heaveness is renowned both in the Celestial Realm and in the Mortal Realm for aiding numerous orthodox celestial practitioners. For that she truly deserves true respect. I...I have never expected that I can be a close sister to the Heaveness even in my dreams. You must have already known that she is one of the seven most powerful ancient celestials in the Celestial Realm?"

The Ascension Goddess smiled weakly, "Actually I have wanted to challenge her some time ago. I find it hard to believe that she is one of the seven most powerful ancient celestials. I think with the Despairing Heavenly Sword in my hands, I am more than a match for her?"

The Universal Old Man laughed jovially, "You can try if you think you

may outlast her Divine Invigorate Skill that is. Besides her internal energies replenishing skill, her intellect and her quick wits in combat is not something an ordinary opponent can overcome so easily.”

The Ascension Goddess laughed jovially, “I am not an ordinary opponent for sure...”

The Universal Old Man snorted jovially, “And you really think that she has no divine weapons to aid her?”

The Ascension Goddess asked curiously, “She has? I don’t see her carrying one at all.”

The Universal Old Man realized that he had said something that he should not have said so he pretended to look away as he said sheepishly, “We should pay attention to what going on in front of us first...”

The Ascension Goddess cried out softly, “Hey you!”

But the Universal Old Man had already made up his mind to ignore her!

Meanwhile Shen Xingyue had lifted her angelic eyes to the Immortal Saint of Swords and to the Lord Supreme, “I am no longer a protégé of the Holy Ascension Sect, am I right to say so?”

The Lord Supreme nodded slowly.

Seeing that, Shen Xingyue said to the Immortal Saint of Swords. “I do have a perfect solution to compensate you. What if I hand to you the Divine Harmony Sword Intricate Formula of the Holy Ascension Sect?”

This immediately caused a huge uproar in the Golden Ascension Hall as thousands of Ascendant protégés protested immediately!

The Divine Harmony Sword Intricate Formula of the Holy Ascension Sect was the secret sword art of the Holy Ascension Sect. Needless to say, only a few chosen ones knew of this intricate formula and they were the Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect!

Old Venerable Vanquisher Sage stole a glance at the Lord Supreme who seemed to be taking this news calmly and did not seem to regard this as a betrayal!

Was it actually a plan of the Lord Supreme from the very start?

The Immortal Saint of Swords seemed to have faltered as his eyes seemed to flicker!

It was because he had been seeking out a similar Divine Harmony of the Holy Ascension Sect for a long time. While the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan had their own Divine Harmony Intricate Formula but the fact that the Supreme Celestials of the Holy Ascension Sect were able to transmigrate with their divine swords to the Celestial Realm was what made their Ascendant Divine Harmony Sword Intricate Formula so precious. It was because if they could transmigrate together with their divine swords to the Celestial Realm, then they could also transmigrate together with their divine swords to the Immortal Realm!

Like the martial clans in the lower realm, it was taboo for the celestial clans to steal the intricate formula of another celestial clan and to practice it. Doing so will only invite scorns from all the other orthodox celestial clans.

But today, he had been offered such a chance!

The Immortal Saint of Swords looked at the Lord Supreme and knew that it was actually his scheme or else he would have already protested venomously.

So he said, “While the offer is tempting, I am afraid that this won’t be enough!”

Both Shen Xingyue and Lingfeng smiled bitterly. This Immortal Saint of Swords really knew when to seek a bargain.

Thousands of celestial practitioners began to mutter among themselves as they all thought that the Immortal Saint of Swords were pushing his luck a little too far!

But Yi Ping was patient as he asked, “Is there anything that Old Senior wants to propose?”

The Immortal Saint of Swords laughed aloud, “You must be thinking that I am just being greedy and so does everyone here. But you have to

agree that you have the better deal in getting two divine swords and the death of a respectable leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan from me, am I right?"

Lele could not resist shouting, "Hmph! Who is the one that says back then that it is to be an honorable duel and no one will be holding accountable for any deaths that will happen! So that is how the orthodox celestial clans behaved here!"

Yixian pulled Lele back to her seat as she said gently, "Sister, I feel your ire but let us observe further first."

The Immortal Saint of Swords ignored Lele as he lifted a smile, "I want Dugu Yunzi to join the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan as the next protégé leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. What do you think?"

Yi Ping and Yunzi were equally stunned!

But this time the Lord Supreme flew into a rage, "You wily fox! I will be the first one to protest!"

Chapter 121: The Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan

The skies were covered with dark thunderstorms. For the past few weeks, the thunderstorms lingered and covered the entire heavens. That was not all; the entire mountains in the vicinity were all rumblings nonstop as earthquakes struck one after another, leveling the mountain paths and creating new ones!

And if one was to look at the horizon, a gigantic black dome that was shaped like a bell could be seen in mid-air. It was so gigantic that the size of this gigantic black dome seemed to span endlessly for miles due to its circular shape to the onlookers that were viewing from below!

In the mountains below, powerful vortexes of winds were uprooting small trees and threatening to sweep anything that could not hold firm to the ground!

In the thick forests that were below, it may appear that on such occasion it should be voided of lively activities but it was the opposite!

Thousands of celestial practitioners had in fact gathered at the forest below and they were all watching from the distant at the floating Stellar Sanctuary and in the direction of the Unmoving Mountains!

Even at this distant, the circular lightning arcs that were surrounding the Stellar Sanctuary was still terrifying. It was as though the black dome that was called the Stellar Sanctuary was like a lightning rod that was drawing the thunderstorms and causing brilliant lightning bolts to appear and explode relentlessly in colors of white, blue and amber!

It seemed that approaching the Stellar Sanctuary seemed like an impossible thing with the furious lightning strikes but the thousands of celestial practitioners that were below were not deterred!

Approaching the Stellar Sanctuary was one thing but could these celestial practitioners actually fly? It was because the Stellar Sanctuary was suspended in mid-air and was separated from even the tallest peak of

the Unmoving Mountains by at least ten miles!

But for the thousands of celestial practitioners in the forest below who had segregated according to their celestial clans and ally clans, the lush forest below was filled with the sounds of intense battles and numerous dead!

It was because a fierce battle for supremacy had started between the Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan, dragging hundreds of celestial clans into their battles when they had stumbled on one another in the same vicinity!

The brutality and horrors of this battle was not something that most celestial practitioners were able to imagine from the start. What started out as a small melee between the scouts of the Celestial Aiel Alliance Clans and the Martial Deviant Alliance Clans quickly embroiled into a fight between multiple clans that belonged to both major celestial factions!

Because most of the exponents from the two factions were dark celestial practitioners, they did not wait for the battle to end first and they were feeding and devouring the hearts of their opponents in the midst of battle, drawing disgust and condemnation from the true celestial practitioners.

Because both sides did not want to suffer the fates of the dead and did not want to be their opponents' tonic, they were all fighting desperately and with all their martial strength with no bars on hold!

In such circumstances, the battle was naturally extremely brutal and difficult to stomach even for those that were fighting but it was a reality for the continued survival of the dark celestial practitioners!

The Martial Grandmaster, Grandmaster Bai Liangong who was also the protégé leader of the Martial Deviant Clan was watching the battle keenly from the rear with more than a thousand celestial practitioners from a hundred over celestial clans!

He was very handsome and young looking. Even though he was a dark practitioner celestial, he actually looked more like a true celestial practitioner saved for his white hair and crimson eyes.

Even though the numerous trees and the thick mists were blocking their views, the thunders from the skies, the tremors from the nonstop earthquakes were also hindering their hearings; they were fully aware of their surroundings and the situations at hand.

Beside the Martial Grandmaster were his two second-in-commands, the Right Deviant Protector and the Left Deviant Protector. Unlike the Martial Grandmaster, they were also true celestial practitioners as marked by their golden eyes.

Grandmaster Bai Liangong used to be a true celestial practitioner a long time ago but he had forsaken the orthodox path to practice the Martial Deviant Divine Skill. That explained why as a dark celestial practitioner, he had maintained his youthful appearance and was unaffected by the passage of time.

It was true celestial practitioners never age and could even rejuvenate their old self once they had ascended to the Celestial Realm!

However, many of the true celestial practitioners like the Lord Supreme and the Universal Old Man continued to keep their beards and even allowing their long beards to grow to denote their seniority in the Celestial Realm. It was because, the disadvantage of being a true celestial practitioner was that unlike mortals, their beards took an extremely time to grow. That was why many of the male celestial practitioners were extremely reluctant to shave their beards!

There was a saying; those with beards were the seniors of the Celestial Realm while those who did not have one were the newcomers of the Celestial Realm!

However, Grandmaster Bai Liangong did not care for this.

He was not only the Martial Grandmaster of the Martial Deviant Clan but he was also the Supreme Leader of hundreds of celestial clans in the Celestial Realm!

Who would dare to mock him?

Yong Le the Right Deviant Protector said, "I have thought that the

Celestial Aiel Sect is a formidable clan but it is just so and so only. What a joke!”

Yang Min the Left Protector said to Yong Le with a soft sigh, “The Celestial Aiel Sect excels in poisons and uses poison to control the celestial clans that are under its sphere of influence. Even if the Celestial Aiel Sect is a formidable clan but I can’t really say for the same for the celestial clans that are under its influence; they have all lost their indomitable spirits. Therefore, using poisons to control these celestial clans are not necessary a good thing. Moreover, most highly attained celestial practitioners are protected by their golden bodies and are naturally immune to poisons.”

Even though her soft sigh was soft but it was also deliberately loud enough so that the leaders and elders of the other celestial clans would be able to hear her. Her explanations were clear enough; the Martial Deviant Clan ruled with their might and those that dare to oppose the Martial Deviant Clan would be given no quarters!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong laughed aloud as he grabbed Yang Min by her waist and lifted her chin, “No wonder you are my most trusted advisor. You have correctly analyzed the situation correctly. By destroying the Celestial Aiel Sect first, we can seize their divine weapons and fulfill our appetite for their blood. Not only that, we can also force the celestial clans that were under the Celestial Aiel Sect to switch their allegiances to us. This will pave the path for our eventual domination of the Celestial Realm.”

He laughed aloud before continuing, “However, if we join forces with the Celestial Aiel Sect, we may be able to overcome the Holy Ascension Sect and its allied clans but it may be a risky move for us as well. The Lord Supreme and the Immortal Saint of Swords are not easy opponents...”

Yang Min the Left Protector nodded, “We do not know how many secret immortal artefacts that the Lord Supreme and the Immortal Saint of Swords possess from their many trips to the Stellar Sanctuary. For them to survive the trials of the Stellar Sanctuary, we must not underestimate them.”

Yong Le the Right Protector said, "Right now, two of the most powerful ancient celestials are at the Unmoving Mountains. It is good that we exercise caution. My main worry is the Immortal Saint of Swords. Our spies have seen his Inverting Eternal Occurrence Sword Technique. This sword technique is extremely powerful according to the eye-witnesses. How is it possible for such a powerful Inverting Eternal Occurrence Sword Technique to exist in the entire fraternity?"

Grandmaster Bai Liangong seemed to be disturbed by it and he was saying bitterly, "Naturally, that sword technique is developed to kill the monstrous denizens of the Stellar Sanctuary. However since we have not seen it with our own eyes, we must not completely trust the accounts of our scouts. After all, I have heard that the Ascension Goddess was able to survive the outcome of the fight with the Immortal Saint of Swords when he used his Inverting Eternal Occurrence Sword Technique."

Yang Min laughed softly, "It is a pity that the Ascension Goddess is not killed or else we will have one less powerful rival to oppose us."

She had restrained from saying that the Ascension Goddess was also not an easy opponent to deal with or else it may weaken the faith and resolute of the other celestial clans that had sworn fealty to the Martial Deviant Clan.

All of a sudden, Grandmaster Bai Liangong laughed when he had caught sight of the Gold Deviant Master, one of the five Deviant Masters and third-in-command in the hierarchy of the Martial Deviant Clan. "Xu Zheng has returned!"

Xu Zheng the Gold Deviant Master was a short but bulky man, spotting a short beard and he was accompanied by four of his men and he was carrying a maiden in white on his shoulder. He was the only true celestial practitioner among the five Deviant Masters and was a trusted lieutenant of Grandmaster Liangong.

The Five Deviant Masters were the Gold Deviant Master, Wood Deviant Master, Water Deviant Master, Fire Deviant Master and the Earth Deviant Master.

Xu Zheng laughed merrily as he thrown the beautiful maiden in white on the ground. Her dress was tattered and she was pale.

Grandmaster Bai Liangong noticed the gushing wound that was on Xu Zheng's chest so he asked, "You are injured? Who injured you? I will take vendetta for you."

Xu Zheng laughed aloud, "Just a minor wound. I will recover in a day or two. Look what I have got for you to feast. I know that you will only eat the hearts of maiden and not any filthy men!"

Grandmaster Bai Liangong laughed, "Only you know after my heart as he looked at the beautiful maiden with savory eyes. Who is she?"

Xu Zheng laughed jovially, "You won't believe my catch. She is also the one that has injured me. She is none other than the Chaste Lunar Maiden, one of the three Celestial Priestesses of the Celestial Mistress!"

Immediately, almost all the celestial practitioners that were behind Grandmaster Bai Liangong gasped aloud and began to step forward to take a closer look!

The Celestial Aiel Sect was ruled by the Celestial Mistress and her second-in-commands were the three Celestial Priestesses!

And Xu Zheng had captured one of the leadership of the Celestial Aiel Sect!

The Chaste Lunar Maiden muttered weakly as she looked at the ground blankly, "Since I have fallen into your hands, I have nothing more to say. If you don't kill me, you will surely regret it!"

Grandmaster Bai Liangong laughed as he flipped her over and began to tear off her clothes, "So you are the Chaste Lunar Maiden? Such a delicate beauty. You want a quick death? Not so easy. I have heard that the Chaste Lunar Maiden of the Celestial Aiel Sect valued her chastity and refusing to dual celestial with anyone. Very soon, you will be the Impure Lunar Maiden then I will drink your blood and feast upon your beating heart while you are alive!"

As soon as he flipped her over, the Chaste Lunar Maiden saw Yang Min

and the both of them reacted with startled shock as she called out, “Sister Min’Er? Is it you? You...have joined the Martial Deviant Clan?”

Yang Min was so startled that she took a small step backward, “Sister Jing’Er, it is you?”

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was also startled, “You know her? I hope that you don’t disappoint me and don’t interfere with my meal. I need to be fully replenished for my next battle.”

Yang Min soon regained her composure as she said emotionlessly, “She is just someone I have known in the lower realm in the same protégé clan. But after I have ascended, I have not seen her or know her whereabouts. I didn’t know that she has changed her celestial name to the Chaste Lunar Maiden. Her previous celestial name was the Lunar Heaven Fairy. You can do whatever you like with her. That is none of my concerns.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was teary as she cried out, “Min Min! How the Celestial Realm has changed you! Have you forgotten about celestial vows...”

Yang Min interrupted coldly, “Our celestial vows are voided now. The Melody Palace no longer exists and the Exalt Heaven Fairy is dead now.”

She quickly lowered her head as she muttered incoherent to herself, “Forgive me. You cannot imagine my hardship.”

Shortly after she had arrived in the Celestial Realm, she had been defiled by Bai Liangong and had since followed him. She had thought of taking her life but transmigrating to the Celestial Realm was her lifetime goal and now that she had reached it, the realities were much different from what she had been expecting. So she suppressed the distresses in her heart and vowed to transmigrate to the Immortal Realm so that one day, she could put aside all her hurts and past!

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was in shock after hearing what she had heard. She simply could not believe that the Exalt Heaven Fairy would actually be capable of saying such a thing to her. Just as she was about to plead to her, Grandmaster Bai Liangong had laughed aloud as he grabbed her by her throat. “Enough! I will make an example out of you from the

Celestial Aiel Sect...”

All of a sudden, a flying sword burst from the forest with a startling speed homed at his back!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was startled as he turned around to parry the flying sword away with his Silveron Gauntlet.

He was confident of course of his martial strength. But as soon as he deflected the flying sword aside, he received such a startling amount of martial force that he was forced to take three steps backward much to his astonishment!

What kind of a sword technique was this flying sword technique? He had never seen such a flying sword display before!

The flying sword was deflected but an unfortunately dark celestial practitioner who was nearby was incapacitated by the flying sword who shown no sign of slowing down!

Instead as soon as it struck the ground with an explosive burst of martial shockwave, it rebounded back at Grandmaster Bai Liangong again!

But this time, Grandmaster Bai Liangong was much prepared and he exercised his entire martial power on his Silveron Gauntlet as he smashed the flying sword onto the ground!

As the flying sword thrust itself into the ground, the Chaste Lunar Maiden and the Yang Min the Left Protector was so shocked that they muttered at the same time, “The White Phoenix!”

The White Phoenix was a divine sword of the Melody Palace and a divine sword that was once used by Yang Min who was once the Exalt Heaven Fairy!

Yang Min was stunned to see the White Phoenix, a divine sword that she had once carried for centuries!

Before Grandmaster Bai Liangong, Yong Le the Right Protector, Xu Zheng the Gold Deviant Master and the hundred celestial practitioners

could seek out the intruder, an extraordinary beautiful maiden with icy cold demeanor had come between the Chaste Lunar Maiden and Grandmaster Liangong muttering as she swung her long scythe with such powerful martial windforce that Grandmaster Liangong was forced to take a further three steps backward, “Yunzi, you must be the first person that throws divine swords as though it is freely available. You must know that you are now the protégé grandmaster of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan now. Luckily, Sister Xingyue did not give the Blue Heavens to the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan or it will surely be thrown away in the next instant!”

No one knew the identity of this extraordinary beautiful maiden but they immediately knew that she was an extremely dangerous exponent because her state of divinity marked her differently and the faint glowing mark on her forehead indicated to everyone that she had indeed opened her Heaven Eyes!

No one was able to identify her maybe except for two, the Chaste Lunar Maiden and Yang Min! They had turned pale immediately and were thinking in their hearts, “Is she Melody Star?! She has managed to ascend? She is the chosen mistress of the Divine Echo? What about the White Phoenix? Luminous Star is here too? But how is it possible for them to bring the divine swords to the Celestial Realm?”

Grandmaster Bai Liangong, Yong Le the Right Protector, Xu Zheng the Gold Deviant Master and a dozen of the celestial practitioners were all super exponents who could react in split second. But this maiden was able to appear in their midst and muttered such a lengthy self-conversation in less than a wink of eye and still maintain her breathe. This already spoke volumes of her current internal strength level!

They immediately retaliated against her with all their martial skills, attacking her in all directions!

Xu Zheng was shouting, “She is using a clumsy long weapon. Once we are near her, she is a goner!”

Grandmaster Bai Liangong exercised his Martial Deviant Divine Skill,

creating a martial tidal wave that was as powerful as the Shen Xingyue's secret martial technique the Big Dipper Hands as he shouted, "Just who are you!"

There were bursts of powerful martial windforce that were like tidal wave coming from all around Lele as she laughed jovially but her voice was extremely icy, "Just who I am? I am your executioner. I am the Joyful Goddess, Prime Celestial of the Celestial Palace...umm...Tranquil City!"

Yong Le shouted, "Never heard of you!"

These super exponents had already surrounded her but all of a sudden, she had brandished out the Divine Echo with her left hand!

There was a brilliant flash of light and halo, immediately counterattacking martial energies exploded outward furiously. Unlike sword energies, this type of martial energies was more subtle and would cause internal injuries if the opposing opponents did not have a good internal strength foundation!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong shouted hurriedly, "Back! Sound wave attack!"

Yang Min gasped, "She can actually completely divine harmonized with the Divine Echo. This is the Melody Energies Shockwaves of the Divine Echo!"

But it was already too late as four other celestial practitioners had immediately coughed out blood as they fell onto the ground!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong did not put her attacks as a threat to him and he had already mustered his martial power to its zenith, rendering her sonic attacks useless against him. "I let you have a taste of my Martial Deviant Divine Force!"

Lele was startled as she flung her long scythe aside to the ground as she raised her right hand to receive the blow!

There was a thunderous explosive impact that rippled throughout, forcing all the celestial practitioners to take several steps backward as they readied a defensive stance!

Lele was startled at how powerful this man's attacks were that she was immediately forced to take seven steps back in a hurry!

Even then, she was saying panicky to the Chaste Lunar Maiden. "What are you waiting for? Run! I didn't come into the midst just because I am bored!"

The Chaste Lunar Maiden could only smile weakly. It was because she was severely injured and was immobilized. Also, she was also afraid of her modesty. That was why she did not even attempt to move!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was startled; he was expecting this maiden to be injured by his Martial Deviant Divine Force. Even though his martial force was stronger, he had suddenly discovered that when they had exchanged martial power with each other, there was a strange force that was exuding from her that seemed to absorbing or negating his Martial Deviant Intricate Energies!

All of a sudden he had turned slightly ashen, "Did she just say she is from the Celestial Palace? Then her martial arts of origin must be the Celestial Force!"

There were thousands of internal martial arts and all the martial arts had a way of opposing and negating one another. The Celestial Force happened to be able to negate the Martial Deviant Intricate Energies and hence could weaken his powerful Martial Deviant Divine Force!

But before Grandmaster Bai Liangong could recollect his thoughts as he continued to raise his powerful Martial Deviant Divine Force against Lele, four other extraordinary heavenly maidens had sped towards him and had intercepted him!

Indeed, they were Yunzi, Youxue, Yixian and Lie Qing!

Their appearances immediately froze the rest of the celestial practitioners on their tracks! They were so breathtaking and it was as though they had just stepped out of a beautiful painting and looked unreal!

The Chaste Lunar Maiden and Yang Mi were even more startled! They

had immediately recognized the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden, Revelation Star and Luminous Star!

And Luminous Star was holding another divine sword that they did not recognize!

But what was startling was their level of divinities, which seemed to be very different and profound!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was no stranger to beautiful maidens as he smirked coldly, "All these delicious meals that comes delivery to my doorstep on their own accord. Wonderful!"

He raised his powerful Martial Deviant Divine Force again, exploding the air with his powerful martial force and expecting these beautiful maidens to be startled and in awe of him.

Lie Qing hummed coldly as she raised her martial power at the same time as seven hovering faints blue wisps burst from behind her, "Fat hope!"

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was startled as he stammered out, "The Invincible Divine Force!"

There was a thunderous thunderclap as multiple martial shockwaves exploded outward, sending pebbles and dust flying in all directions!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was forced to take several steps backward as he lifted his sleeves to cover himself from the bursting dusty windforce but he was otherwise unhurt.

It was not because his martial power was weaker than the enchanting maiden that had just engaged him but it was because he had suddenly sensed a cold beaming blade that seemed to be hovering on his back that had caused him to move aside and another icy cold martial force that seemed to be secretly aiding the maiden that he had exchanged blow with!

That cold beaming blade had come from that maiden that claimed herself as the Joyful Goddess!

He spat, "Despicable! She is trying to sneak on my back. Then they must be from the Celestial Aiel Sect and not the Holy Ascension Sect. Only the Celestial Aiel Sect won't hesitate to use such despicable and sneaky attacks!"

The dusts had quickly settled but the intruders and the Chaste Lunar Maiden were all gone, carried away by someone with superb lightness skill!

Even the White Phoenix was no longer in the same spot and was taken away!

Yang Min was left standing on the same spot as she murmured with shock, "Revelation Star...the Heavenly Earth Divine Sword...Luminous Star...they are all here...how can it even be possible... the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden..."

But the most shocking thing that caused Grandmaster Bai Liangong and Yong Le the Right Protector to be in complete shock was that Xu Zheng the Gold Martial Master was lying on the ground in a pool of blood!

All the others celestial practitioners had broken into cold sweat as they knew how fearsome the martial level of Xu Zheng was. In the Celestial Realm, he was known as the Unkillable Fighter who could overcome opponents that were stronger than him. If he was not formidable, how was he able to overcome the Chaste Lunar Maiden while in the midst of their formidable battle arrays?

But now, he was now lying on the ground weakly!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong was trembling as he bended to inspect Xu Zheng's injuries, "Who did this to you, my brother?"

He had caught a glimpse of a mesmerizing maiden in yellow that had intercepted Xu Zheng earlier.

Xu Zheng muttered weakly, "... Be careful! The Dominating Force..."

Grandmaster Bai Liangong replied coldly as he choked Xu Zheng, "I will avenge you, my brother. In your present state of injuries, you are no use to the Martial Deviant Clan. I need my meal to unleash my full martial

power. You may as well donate your heart to me and I will avenge you! ”

Xu Zheng stared in disbelief and could not believe that Grandmaster Bai Liangong would do this to him!

He could only cried out weakly, “Bai...Lian❖Gong...you!”

At first, he wanted to warn him to be wary of the secret hand techniques of the yellow dress maiden and that was what had caused him to be careless. But before he could do so, he was betrayed by his own protégé master, brother and friend!

Grandmaster Bai Liangong hummed coldly but at the same time, he looked at Yang Min and asked. “What’s wrong? Why are you standing there so still for?”

Yang Min quickly regained her composure as she smiled weakly, “Nothing. I am thinking these intruders are not ordinary opponents. Firstly, I can’t read their state of divinity. They are not yet Ancient Celestials but their state of divinity far exceeded the ordinary celestial practitioners. They may be even on par with us in terms of martial levels. Moreover, have you ever seen a group as small as this and they have four divine swords on them?”

Grandmaster Bai Liangong nodded as he replied coldly, “I want their divine swords for our sect.”

He turned to face the rest of the celestial practitioners, “Listen up! I want you to order your clan protégés to hunt them down and bring their divine swords to me!”

The leaders and elders from these celestial practitioners were cowed by the hegemony aura of Grandmaster Bai Liangong as they quickly bowed one after the other as they barked to their protégés and messengers to search for these maidens in the vicinity!

Yong Le the Right Protector issued an edict to the protégés of the Martial Deviant Clan, “You have heard the Martial Grandmaster. I want all the protégés to search for the divine swords. It doesn’t matter if the intruders are dead or alive. The divine swords must be found at all costs

before the Celestial Aiel Sect did. Also recall the Four Deviant Masters from the battlefield immediately. I want them to lead their protégés to hunt for the divine swords as our main priority!”

Grandmaster Bai Liangong interrupted coldly, “Second priority will be their still beating hearts. With their state of divinities, their blood and hearts will be able to aid me to further my attainment tremendously.”

He walked to Yang Mi as he caressed her chin, “After my meal, come to my tent. I need some venting.”

Yang Mi could only nod quietly as she pursed her lips...

In the meantime, where was Yi Ping?

Yi Ping was with the Stellar Heaven Fairy and he had lost his way as he tried to fight through the messy battles that were everywhere. He had no way of knowing who was who as more than ten thousand celestial practitioners were fighting everywhere!

In the Golden Ascension Hall, Yunzi had boldly stepped forward to assume the leadership mantle of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan hence resolving a tricky feud.

But at the same time, Yi Ping did not feel comfortable about an open confrontation with the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect as he knew there would be many dead afterward.

So he said aloud, “Why don’t we simply let the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect enters the Sanctuary Stellar first? We don’t really have to fight to the death, am I right?”

The Lord Supreme paused for a while before he smiled, “That may be the best solution. Why don’t we send you as a special envoy so that we can resolve this conflict amicably? But this mission may be dangerous and we have no way of knowing how these dark celestial clans may react. Do you think you may still want to go?”

Yi Ping replied and his resolve was firm, “Even if the chance is slim, I want to try my best to try to bring about a peaceful solution. Or else many more will be killed. This is something that I don’t want to see!”

Lingfeng smiled gently at him, "What you are doing is right. Ping'Er, I will go with you!"

The Lord Supreme said solemnly, "The Heaveness and the Universal Old Man must not go. If you go, then this peace mission will surely fail. Sending the two of you to these wolves is like dangling a tempting piece of meat to them."

Lingfeng protested immediately, "Dangling their divine swords in front of them has the same results too, am I right?"

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed, "We need someone who isn't too weak or too strong for this mission to succeed. If they don't have their divine swords, then they cannot make them pay attention to them."

The Lord Supreme nodded as he proclaimed, "Then that is final. Yi Ping, you will attempt the peace mission first before we decide things further."

That was how Yi Ping had set off with Yunzi, Youxue, Yixian, Lie Qing, Lele and the Stellar Heaven Fairy to intercept the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect first.

Ye Yin the Ascension Goddess, Shen Xingyue the Fiery Phoenix, Yu'Er the Eclipse Goddess and Mei'Er the Axis Goddess did not join them as they had decided to go for a quick retreat to perfect the Four Aggregates Sword Formation which may be crucial to aid them in the Stellar Sanctuary.

As for the Universal Old Man and Lingfeng the Heaveness, they continued to remain in the Holy Ascension Sect.

Lingfeng was sad and worried to let Yi Ping went off by himself. But he had already made up his mind to do so.

But Yi Ping was not expecting that the factions belonging to the Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan to be fighting among themselves in the vicinity of the Unmoving Mountains!

Knowing that they had to stop the fighting as soon as possible in order for the peace mission to succeed, Yunzi proposed a plan to separate the group into two.

However, they soon broke into strong arguments as all the maidens wanted to be in Yi Ping's group to keep 'an eye on him' for his safety. In the end, it was decided for the neutral Stellar Heaven Fairy to accompany Yi Ping instead!

Even though Youxue was still unhappy with this arrangement and had protested but she was sensible to know that they had to stop these two rival factions from fighting first!

So they randomly set off in two directions by taking a detour to avoid the heavy fighting!

But there were simply too many celestial practitioners everywhere even in the areas that they had thought was safe!

The Celestial Aiel Sect had carefully deployed numerous celestial clans at strategic points so that their true numbers would not be obvious to the scouts of their opponents.

Yi Ping had mustered his martial power, executing the Divine Horizon Hands and the Ultrapowerful Force as he just knocked ten celestial practitioners that were lying in wait in this part of the forest as he took in a deep breath as he said to the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "We have been encircling the woods and the mountains for ages yet there are no sight of either the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy took in a deep breath as she looked at the ten celestial practitioners who were moaning on the ground, "I really think we are lost."

She kicked the moaning celestial practitioner that was nearest to her as she asked, "Hey! Which clan are you from? Are you from the Martial Deviant Clan or the Celestial Aiel Sect?"

The moaning celestial practitioner smiled bitterly, "We are Thousand Arms Clan..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy interrupted coldly, "What Thousand Arms Clan, Hundred Arms Clan. I am asking you where the Martial Deviant Clan or the Celestial Aiel Sect is?"

The moaning celestial practitioner smiled most bitterly, “You know very well that they are all here in the vicinity. Why bother to ask us...”

Yi Ping was also smiling bitterly as he asked, “We need the exact directions. Can you lead us to either one of them?”

Directions were actually meaningless in the infinity mountains of the Celestial Realm. It was because the path from peak to peak, mountain to mountain was never a straight line!

The moaning celestial practitioner asked, “Just who are you? On which side are you? If we lead you to our leaders, we are also courting death ourselves.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy asked him, “Which faction do you belong to? The Celestial Aiel Sect or the Martial Deviant Clan?”

“They are the ally of the Celestial Aiel Sect.” A gentle voice resonated from afar!

The moaning celestial practitioners that were on the ground had all broke into cold sweat as they stammered, “The Celestial Mistress is here!”

Very soon, Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy found themselves surrounded by hundreds of celestial practitioners from all sides!

These celestial practitioners were all top exponents and their swiftness movement skills were all very light!

But they made no move against them and were simply surrounding them; seemingly to wait for the Celestial Mistress to arrive!

It was not long before tens of maidens in white, accompanied by a dozen sedan carriers were seen carrying a large sedan that was shaped like a veiled bed was seen!

The scantily dressed maiden was seen lying sideway behind the bed veils. Judging from the veneration looks of the other celestial practitioners, she seemed to be someone with a high status.

That conclusion was quickly confirmed when the hundreds of celestial practitioners began to shout frantically, “Praises to the Celestial Mistress!

May all Heavens sing the praises of the Celestial Mistress! Her glories shine forth to the Ninth Heavens and to Beyond!”

Yi Ping quickly bowed respectfully with his hands, “I am Yi Ping. I mean no offense or hostilities. In fact I am representing the Holy Ascension Sect as a peace envoy...”

The scantily dressed maiden interrupted softly, “Oh really? I don’t believe. I can give you one more chance to make your case before I set my men on you...”

Just then, there was a strong wind that accidentally lifted the curtain veils of the bed, swaying it to one side!

And Yi Ping could see her face clearly now!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy nearly fumbled. She had never seen anyone this beautiful and heavenly!

But Yi Ping was even more startled as his eyes widened as he stammered out, “Mother!”

The scantily maiden that was behind the curtain veils really resembled his late mother Shui Yichi!

Only that this scantily maiden was a golden celestial and a true celestial practitioner in the Celestial Realm!

The scantily dressed maiden seemed to be amused as she sighed softly, “Good try but I am afraid that it won’t work on me. You got to be more original than this...”

The hundreds of celestial practitioners around immediately burst out into loud laughter and Yi Ping was immediately flustered!

Chapter 122: The Celestial Mistress

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled that Yi Ping was literally staring at the scantily dressed maiden!

She had to admit that the Celestial Mistress was really breathtaking and she was alike to Yixian the Celestial Fairy in many ways!

But Yi Ping was not a lustful man and he was not known to be tempted by beautiful maidens. But today, he was staring blankly at her!

The scantily dressed maiden looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy in the eyes as she said gently, "You have woeful eyes. I welcome you to join the Celestial Aiel Sect..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy hummed coldly, "Thank you so much but I am happy now."

She stole a glance at Yi Ping secretly as she smiled to herself secretly.

The scantily dressed Celestial Mistress flickered her fingers and the white translucent curtain veils came down again, "These winds are so annoying! And even the earthquakes are making me uncomfortable."

She was lying horizontally and was facing them, cladded only in her lingerie. Just now when the winds had lifted the translucent curtain veils, all the sharp eyed male celestial practitioners were all holding their breath as they could see her white bosoms and slender porcelain white thighs.

Even when she had lowered the translucent curtain veils again, her modesty had already been outraged as the white translucent curtain veils were too thinly veiled to really cover anything!

The majority of the hundreds of celestial practitioners here who did not hail from the Celestial Aiel Sect had never seen the face of the Celestial Mistress before and was stunned at her breathtaking beauty!

The scantily dressed Celestial Mistress said gently, "There is righteous air around you that is a beacon of light in this desolate vicinity. If it is not for your righteous air, I will never show up in front of you. That is why I

am willing to hear from you but you do not seem to be appreciative of this. A celestial expert with your state of divinity and carrying a divine sword on your back claims to be from the Holy Ascension Sect, isn't that laudable?"

Yi Ping was stammering, "I am really...from a peace envoy from the Holy Ascension Sect..."

The scantily dressed Celestial Mistress interrupted gently, "You really disappoint me. You are not a Supreme Celestial of the Holy Ascension Sect and I know every single one of them..."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy interrupted coldly, "Yi Ping is a newly ascended celestial practitioner. That is why you have never heard of him. Moreover, we are the peace envoys of the Holy Ascension Sect but we never say we are from the Holy Ascension Sect. We are only representing the Holy Ascension Sect and we are from the Tranquil City..."

Immediately, a maiden in white and green that stood beside the sedan of the Celestial Mistress gasped. "I remember now. This Yi Ping, I think he is from the Tranquil City...he has actually defeated Ximen Nanqing and renamed the Dominating Aura City to the Tranquil City. What more, I have heard that he has actually defeated the Immortal Saint of Swords too!"

This time round even the Celestial Mistress seemed to have become tense as she muttered, "So he is the one? The Lord of the Tranquil City? I have heard that on his grand occasion, the Immortal Sword Sages of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan and the other celestial practitioners from various clans had come to the Tranquil City to challenge him but they were all defeated by him one by one."

She paused for a while as she seemed to ponder as she lowered her gaze, "And even the Ascension Goddess has become his consort..."

She lifted her eyes to look at the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "You are his consort as well?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy nodded as she said, "That is right. We have really come in peace to avert a celestial calamity..."

All of a sudden, the Celestial Mistress interrupted icily, “The righteous orthodox clans will never co-exist with the evil heretic clans. It has been this way since the start and will remain forever...”

Yi Ping was startled at her sudden change of attitude and he could sense her malevolent intent as he wondered, “Why is that her attitude seems to change all of a sudden?”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy sighed in her heart, “She must have taken an interest in Ping’Er but when she has learnt that he is married, she has changed her tone immediately! It seems that this peace mission is not going to be easy and we don’t know if we can get out of here alive. I hope the others sisters are coping much better than us.”

All of a sudden a muscular fine man with a fire mark on his forehead stepped forward as he exclaimed aloud, “I have never expected that the Celestial Priestess to be so stunning. This is indeed a feast on my eyes!”

All the other celestial practitioners including Yi Ping were startled at his bold sweeping statements!

Yi Ping immediately turned to appraise him and he was startled by the profound state of divinity of this muscular fine man who was also a golden celestial. And judging from the divine aura of the sword that was on his back, it must be a powerful divine sword too!

At the same time, Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy had noticed that the other celestial practitioners seemed to be steering clear of him.

Yi Ping thought, “Just who he is? He is the lord of a powerful celestial clan so that is why he is being so insolent?”

The maiden in white and green that was gasping earlier said coldly, “How dare you speak in that manner in front of the Celestial Mistress! Don’t forget that you are just an autonomous celestial and we are many here!”

The muscular fine man raised his eyes sharply as he raised his fist, “Don’t forget who I am! I am the Mad Conqueror! I say and do whatever I like!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped, “He is one of the top seven newly celestial fighters. He is said to be the strongest among the seven because he had consumed a Fire Kirin Divine Pill! He is...”

She wanted to say he was a mad man but she had restrained herself!

Yi Ping was startled that he was actually looking at such a super exponent!

It was not fear that was exciting him. It was because Yi Ping had a sudden thought, “Can I defeat him? How strong is he?”

The Mad Conqueror seemed to be thinking of the same thing too as he appraised Yi Ping, “So how strong are you? You can actually defeat the Immortal Saint of Swords? That is really a surprise.”

Yi Ping replied humbly as he bowed with his hands, “My skills are still inferior to the Immortal Saint of Swords. He was gracious enough. If we duel again, he will surely be able to win.”

The Immortal Saint of Swords only lost narrowly when the Celestial Alice slipped from his hands and not because the Immortal Saint of Swords could not defeat Yi Ping!

The Mad Conqueror hummed coldly as he flashed his golden eyes at Yi Ping, “Regardless, I like to know how good you are. I see that you have a divine sword on your back. That is the Celestial Alice?”

Yi Ping nodded slowly, “You know?”

The Mad Conqueror waved his hand, “I have heard that the Celestial Alice was lost to you. However, you may not know this. When the Celestial Alice was first unsealed, I am also one of the top contenders to obtain it...”

He paused to sigh, “...However, the Immortal Saint of Swords got the better of us all and seized the Celestial Alice. Till this day, I am still unable to get over it. It seems that fate isn’t so bad to me after all and is delivering the Celestial Alice to me.”

Yi Ping immediately said, “Fat hope!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said coldly as well, "You wish! Don't forget we are here as envoys. Let's resolve this peacefully alright? The Lord Supreme has a message for all of you. If you want to enter the Stellar Sanctuary, the orthodox celestial clans won't stop you. But if you dare to ascend the heaven steps of the Holy Ascension Sect, then don't blame anyone!"

The Mad Conqueror roared with laughter and immediately his martial shout exploded with a tremendous shockwave that caused many of the celestial practitioners to step backward and covering their ears!

His martial power was indeed profound!

After he had stopped laughing, he stared at the Stellar Heaven Fairy. "You are threatening me?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was frightened by him as she stepped quietly behind Yi Ping as she grasped his right arm gently!

Yi Ping was unhappy that the Mad Conqueror was actually raising his voice and threatening Shi Shi so he said coldly, "We are here to resolve a possible crisis. Do you think that after the fighting with the Martial Deviant Clan, your side will still have the strength to engage the Holy Ascension Sect and still be able to partake in the challenges of the Stellar Sanctuary."

The Mad Conqueror laughed aloud, "You are so ignorant. Judging from what you have just said, you must never have been to the Stellar Sanctuary before..."

Suddenly, the Celestial Priestess cautioned him with a gentle reminder, "Be careful. This is forbidden."

To everyone's surprise, the Mad Conqueror was suddenly quiet!

Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were startled. It was because they had heard this too many times!

Yi Ping curiosity was aroused, "Why is it forbidden to mention anything about the Stellar Sanctuary? What is going on?"

“Celestial Priestess Han Lin,” the Celestial Mistress said gently to the maiden in white and green. “It seems that a fight is inevitable now. Who do you think will win?”

Han Lin laughed softly, “I think it will be this Yi Ping!”

The Mad Conqueror was truly enraged as he unsheathed his divine sword with a brilliant flash of red, “This is my divine sword, Fire Emblem! Do you dare to accept my challenge?!”

It was a beautiful sword with many intricate designs of patterned red dragons on it on its blade and a faint light violet glow could be seen radiating from it!

Yi Ping hummed coldly as he unsheathed the Celestial Alice, “I don’t think I have a choice. Whether I like it or not, you have already made up your mind to fight with me.”

The Mad Conqueror laughed, “That is right. Before the fight starts, the contests of wills have already begun. If your will falter, then I would have already won the fight even before it even began.”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled as she quickly said aloud, “Stop it, the two of you! Can’t you see that it is the intentions of the Celestial Mistress and the Celestial Priestess to provoke the two of you into a fight? Don’t let them sow discord between the two of you and have them reap the benefits of your conflict...”

The Celestial Mistress said gently, “Yi Ping, if you can defeat the Mad Conqueror then I will accept the terms of the Holy Ascension Sect. But if you are unable to, then you will surely die. Not only that, your woman will become his woman and your divine sword will become his!”

Han Lin continued to smile wryly, “Mistress, I betting that this Yi Ping will win. What about you?”

The scantily dressed Celestial Mistress secretly looked at Han Lin as they exchanged a mischievous smile. It was because they did not care if Yi Ping was dead or not. If Yi Ping could injure the Mad Conqueror, then it would be the best. Either way, they would have a chance to analyze the

fighting styles of the Mad Conqueror to exploit a possible shortcoming.

The Celestial Mistress replied gently, "I guess so as well. After all, since he can defeat the Immortal Saint of Swords while the Mad Conqueror can't. Isn't that the most logical conclusion?"

Her voice was gently but it rung piercingly in the ears of the Mad Conqueror, causing him to become extremely maddened!

In a blink of an eye, the Mad Conqueror was already on Yi Ping with an explosive sword burst that shook the surroundings. It was even louder than the thunder that was overhead and the rumbling tremors that were shaking the mountains!

Yi Ping immediately shouted aloud, "Shi Shi, back!"

Just as the Stellar Heaven Fairy moved aside, there was a huge thunderous impact that sent the earthen ground to explode upward and scattered in all directions!

It was because the Mad Conqueror had raised his divine sword as he hacked on top of Yi Ping; this simple attack stance actually contained all his entire martial power and would crush anyone!

Yi Ping was not slow either as he raised the Celestial Alice to receive the incoming hacking sword stance. He dare not be careless as he gave a great martial shout, displaying the Asper Divinity which was his most powerful attack stance as three powerful martial bursts forth around him and sending thunderous shockwaves throughout!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy and everyone were startled by the astonishing martial force that had erupted!

Instead of seeing either Yi Ping or the Mad Conqueror fell by the explosive martial force or weakened by the clash, Yi Ping and the Mad Conqueror had disengaged almost immediately as they re-mustered their martial power. In a blink of an eye, they had clashed again with several series of brilliant sparks of light as martial shockwaves and furious burning windforces ripped throughout the vicinity!

The hundreds of celestial practitioners turned ashen immediately as

they thought secretly, “This is the true strength of the Mad Conqueror? This Yi Ping, he possesses such a profound martial power? I almost want to challenge this Yi Ping to seize his divine sword...”

Even the Celestial Mistress had sat straightened up as she watched the duel intensely!

In a blink of an eye, they had exchanged more than a dozen sword blows and had disengaged again and their surroundings had exploded with their martial windforce relentlessly!

The Mad Conqueror was surprised that Yi Ping could escape unscathed after receiving a blow from his extraordinary martial power and that he was even on the offensive against him that he shouted, “Good! Then I won’t be merciful anymore!”

All of a sudden, his divine sword shined forth a brilliant red halo as he raised the hilt with both hands!

In that instant, the ground around him exploded and was grinded into smithereens by the combined divine force of his divine sword and his martial force, “This is my Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique. Be gone!”

Yi Ping was startled at the martial strength of the Mad Conqueror. It was like he was hitting an invincible wall that he could not overcome. But that did not diminish his fighting spirit as he willed himself with the Absolute Spirits as he shouted with all his martial strength, “The Celestial Antonym Alice, the Celestial Synonym Alice!”

Yi Ping had split the Celestial Alice into two as a brilliant halo ushered forth, much to the startled astonishments of the onlookers. The divine aura of the Celestial Alice had suddenly jumped up many notches and at the same time, the aftershocks of the martial windforce increased many folds forcing everyone to take several steps backward!

Even the thinly translucent curtain veils of the sedan that the Celestial Mistress was sitting in were blown apart!

Han Lin and several maidens in white immediately surrounded the

sedan as they shielded the modesty of the Celestial Mistress with their bodies and to protect her from the sudden burst of dangerous windforces!

The Celestial Mistress was gasping at the outpouring of divine force that had suddenly increased when Yi Ping had split the Celestial Alice, “What an unusual divine sword. Its true form is actually two divine swords? This divine force that I am sensing...”

She lowered her voice as she muttered incoherently, “...is this the Universal Force?”

As Yi Ping charged towards the Mad Conqueror, the ground beneath him exploded with his martial force! The unique shape of the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice were like his wings as he charged forward but as soon as he was near the Mad Conqueror, he had exercised the full martial power of his Asper Divinity as he swung the two Celestial Alice into forward attacking stances!

There were a brilliant rainbow and crimson light that exploded with such tremendous martial force that the entire ground that were around Yi Ping and the Mad Conqueror began to rip upward in all directions, flying and scattering the earth as though it was replicating the destructive energies of sword energies!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy immediately gathered her robe as she tumbled backward and leapt on the branch of a tree that was behind her. Her quick thinking had saved her!

Almost immediately dozens of celestial practitioners were ripped apart by the killing energies and the agony cries of the wounded were everywhere!

As for the Celestial Mistress and her clan protégés, they were standing too near to the duel to take evasive action. It happened too quickly and no one was expecting anything like this!

The Celestial Mistress quickly gasped out, “Back!”

But instead of taking evasive action herself, she had stepped forward and exploded the incoming martial energies with her martial force!

“The Inverting Universe!” She cried out as she displayed her epitome martial force technique as she attempted to reverse the incoming martial energies!

She had immediately coughed out blood but she had at least managed to dissipate the incoming martial energies. As she tumbled backward, she was immediately helped by Han Lin and the other protégés who were all calling aloud. “Mistress! Are you alright?”

The Celestial Mistress took a deep breath as she shook her head, “I...am alright. I have never encountered such devastating martial energies before. Even my Inverting Universe is unable to dissipate it completely.”

But her attention was quickly returned to the duel that was taking place. By now, everyone had steered clear of them and had an astonished look on their faces!

She muttered softly, “Now that are the qualities to enter the Stellar Sanctuary...”

Both the Mad Conqueror and Yi Ping had coughed a mouthful of blood but they were still returning attacking strokes at each other relentlessly as they continued to send martial windforce to explode with each thunderous impact!

The Mad Conqueror had expected Yi Ping to give way under his Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique but he was surprised that Yi Ping could actually block his Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique, catching hold of his killing technique by wielding the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice in a cross shape on top of him!

Yi Ping was also astonished by the might of the Mad Conqueror as the ground beneath him gave way and he had sunk into the ground!

But he had quickly blocked the devastating killing technique and had retaliated with the Divine Horizon Swordplay with his left hand, wounding the Mad Conqueror with a quick slash!

The Mad Conqueror was hacking at Yi Ping with a berserk fury as he shouted, “How dare you wound me! You must be courting your own

doom!”

Yi Ping retaliated against the offensive attacks, strokes for strokes and blows for blows as he shouted, “You may be strong but I have fought against even stronger adversaries!”

Yi Ping had fought against the black Kirin and had survived.

The Mad Conqueror had derived his supernatural strength from the Fire Kirin Divine Pill and through the combination of his supernatural strength and martial power, he was unstoppable against most celestial practitioners and few celestial practitioners were his match when it had come to a contest of martial powers!

Except that Yi Ping also had the supernatural strength of the Kirin in his blood and was his equal in martial strength when he was exercising his full martial power!

The Mad Conqueror hacked at Yi Ping with startling speed, moving from left to right, right to left. In a blink of an eye, he could hit Yi Ping in six different directions and each of his strokes was like a titanic irresistible force!

However, it was all blocked by Yi Ping!

However, the action of blocking caused Yi Ping to cough out blood for every five strokes that he had blocked, further increasing the severity of his internal injuries but Yi Ping willed himself to continue fighting while ignoring the reversing of his vital energies in his energy channels!

The Mad Conqueror was astonished that Yi Ping could actually receive his powerful strokes without faltering as he thought, “Is he human?”

But for every sixth stroke that he had received, he could retaliate against the Mad Conqueror with a powerful slash with either the Celestial Antonym Alice or the Celestial Synonym Alice!

By the time Yi Ping had slashed him for the sixth time, the Mad Conqueror was seeing red even though he was still protected by his martial force!

The Mad Conqueror was beginning to get startled, “Why don’t you fall. I don’t believe that you got so much martial strength after our earlier clashes! What type of swordplay is this? You can attack and defend at the same time...”

He had already noticed that Yi Ping was always one stroke ahead of him and that was beginning to put him at a disadvantage!

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he continued to return stroke for stroke against the Mad Conqueror, “I am also thinking of the same of you too. This is the Perfect Swordplay!”

Yi Ping martial power was faltering but he had the superior strokes. As for the Mad Conqueror, his martial power did not seem to be affected and that was causing Yi Ping to be concerned!

It was because when he had no more strength to withstand the Mad Conqueror, he would surely be killed in an instant.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was in tears as she witnessed the duel and feared that Yi Ping may not last much longer as he was now forced to move back a step each time he had coughed out blood!

Even the Celestial Mistress was secretly clenching her hand to her bosoms and forgetting that she was carrying internal injuries on her own!

All of a sudden when Yi Ping had moved the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice into a cross diagonal shape before slashing at the Mad Conqueror, something extraordinary had happened; the golden lights of the Celestial Alice exploded outwardly in an instant, replicating the extraordinary martial force of the Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique as the ground exploded and was grinded into smithereens!

The Mad Conqueror was stunned as he shouted, “When did you learn my technique...”

He coughed out a mouthful of blood as he forced himself to use his Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique against Yi Ping again!

But no longer had Yi Ping swung the Celestial Antonym Alice as it

exploded with the martial power of the Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique, he had swung the Celestial Synonym Alice as well and it too burst into golden lights as it replicated the Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique!

The Mad Conqueror stared in disbelief as two Heavens Encompassing Killing Techniques came down upon him...

The Celestial Mistress gasped quietly, "This is really the Universal Force! Even though it appears that it is actually replicating the martial force of the Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique but the martial force that was generated from the Celestial Alice is much powerful. That isn't just any martial force that can generate by any mortals..."

She was interrupted by the martial energies shockwaves that were even more powerful than earlier as she took hasty steps behind with her protégés while displaying the Inverting Universe Divine Skill!

There were three large explosive thunderclaps. Almost immediately, the mountains began to shake and the entire ground was erupting unsteadily as everyone gasped aloud. However, they could not see past the dusts and debris to see the result!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was also gasping after witnessing what she had just seen, "Isn't that the Universal Force?"

She was naturally familiar with it. It was because she was the ex-mistress of the Heavenly Earth Sword!

She also knew that the Universal Force was also the most destructive force in the universe and only a few divine weapons were able to contain it and these are the true immortal weapons!

All of a sudden, she had a conclusion. "If the Universal Force is unleashed, then it won't be just this little impact. It will even exceed the Celestial Annihilation Star Formation. That is the reason why the Celestial Annihilation Star Formation is created to contain the Universal Force of the Heavenly Earth Sword, counter balancing it with the divine auras of the White Phoenix and Divine Echo..."

She took a deep breath as she watched the scene anxiously, “Has Yi Ping found a way to contain the Universal Force by replicating the Heavens Encompassing Killing Technique? Or that is actually the divine power of the Celestial Alice that is restraining the Universal Force?”

When the martial windforces were beginning to slow down, everyone could see a lone shadowy figure standing in the middle of the thick smog. He was clasping two swords on his hands!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped aloud, “Ping’Er!”

She sped towards him immediately!

But before she could reach him, the Celestial Mistress was already beside Yi Ping as she re-appraised him with a completely new tune as she asked him with a concern look, “Are...you alright?”

Yi Ping was in a daze and he could barely stand.

The body of the Mad Conqueror was lying in front of him. He had won...

All of a sudden, the Celestial Mistress had appeared in front of him and had startled him, “Are...you alright?”

He answered absent mindedly, “Mother, I have won...”

The Celestial Mistress chuckled softly as she gave him a faint smile, “I am not your mother. But if you insist you want to call me that, I don’t mind too.”

At the same time, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Han Lin were also beside them!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy immediately grabbed Yi Ping as she showered him with concerns, “Ping’Er, are you alright? You...you have won!”

Only then did Yi Ping recollected his thoughts as he muttered, “I have won?”

The Celestial Mistress said gently, “You must know that at your current state, I can crush you as easily as an ant. But since you have defeated the Mad Conqueror, I am willing to make peace with the Holy Ascension Sect...”

Han Lin was suddenly giggling, “Mistress, don’t tell me you have...”

The Celestial Mistress stared at her coldly, “I can see from your eyes too! Hurry and give the Mad Conqueror a proper burial.”

Yi Ping muttered, “I don’t mean to kill him. I am appreciative that the Celestial Mistress honor and respect the dead.”

The Celestial Mistress smiled faintly but she was secretly giving a hand gesture on her back!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was cursing silently.

It was because she had already noticed that the dead bodies in the vicinity were all disappearing in the shadows. Yi Ping was new and naïve in the Celestial Realm. These dark celestial clans would not waste a chance to further their own practice. The precious heart of the Mad Conqueror was a prize that was worth fighting for!

Almost immediately, more than a hundred celestial practitioners from the various other celestial clans were all stepping forward as they said. “I wonder if the Celestial Mistress will be willing to let us partake in the honorable burial of the Mad Conqueror?”

“How outrageous! How dare you speak when the Celestial Mistress did not give her consent yet!” A feminine voice was heard coming from another direction.

Immediately all the celestial practitioners that had stepped forward immediately offered their apologies and were taking backward steps!

It was as though they were all extremely afraid of this new comer!

A breathtaking maiden whose beauty was on par with the Celestial Mistress had turned up. Behind her were more than two hundred celestial practitioners that were robed in black or white.

Yi Ping could see that she was carrying a white divine sword on her side as he thought, “Who is she? She has a divine sword too?”

But he also felt pitiful for her. It was because this ravishing beauty was actually a dark celestial; she had white hair and crimson eyes!

The Celestial Mistress gave a faint smile, "Xiao Qian, so it is you. You are just in a nick of time."

Han Lin quickly said, "She is one of the three Celestial Priestess of the Celestial Aiel Sect in charge of the Black Faction. Her celestial name is the Celeste Wind Maiden. Weird, where is the Chaste Lunar Maiden? That is her White Faction but there is no sight of her..."

This time, the Stellar Heaven Fairy was truly taken aback!

It was because the Celeste Wind Maiden was one of the newly seven super celestial fighters too! Together with her divine sword the Celeste Wind, the number of celestial practitioners that were defeated by her was no less than the Mad Conqueror and the Ascension Goddess!

No wonder these celestial practitioners seemed to be afraid of her!

The Celeste Wind Maiden said solemnly, "My Mistress, you need to cover yourself first..."

All of a sudden, Yi Ping had noticed that the Celestial Mistress was even more scantily dressed as her lingerie was tattered and he was flustering suddenly!

The Celestial Mistress too had a flush of red on her cheeks. She had virtually forgotten all about it!

Han Lin quickly took off her outer robe and gave it to her as she whispered softly, "Shame on you..."

The Celestial Mistress muttered, "Who is the clan protégé mistress...you or me..."

Han Lin immediately kept quiet but she continued to smile jovially!

The Celeste Wind Maiden said to the Celestial Mistress as she stared coldly at the hundred practitioners that had stepped forward earlier, "I have something urgently to report. Our protégé sister, the Chaste Lunar Maiden has been captured by the enemy. I am afraid that she may have met with mishap."

The Celestial Mistress trembled lightly as she sighed woefully. She

composed herself as she replied gently, “This is the survival rules of the Celestial Realm. Look sister, let me introduce you to this hero. He is Yi Ping and he has just defeated the Mad Conqueror!”

Yi Ping smiled awkwardly.

The Celeste Wind Maiden had already noticed it. She was secretly astonished at the sight of the vicinity. Earlier when she had heard the martial shockwaves that were coming from here, she had already sensed something was amiss and had rushed back here. But she still refused to believe that this Yi Ping had defeated the Mad Conqueror alone so she said quietly, “Well, it is foolish for the Mad Conqueror to challenge the might of the Celestial Aiel Sect...”

Han Lin interrupted with a jovial smile, “Sister, then you are wrong! We didn’t even lift a finger and he had defeated him all by himself!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled as she appraised Yi Ping slowly...

The Celestial Mistress laughed gently, “That is the truth. He is the Lord of the Tranquil City. Even the Immortal Saint of Swords is not his match!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked at Yi Ping’s divine swords, “Then this is the Celestial Alice?!”

Yi Ping nodded.

The Celestial Mistress said gently, “He is here as a peace envoy from the Holy Ascension Sect...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said emotionlessly, “He should be the one that is saying that. What is wrong with you today? You don’t really talk much most of the time and today, you have already talked as much as you do for a week.”

The Celestial Mistress smiled gently, “Well, he is my son...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was genuinely startled, “Hmph! What did you just say? When did you lose your chastity mark?”

The Celestial Mistress quickly said, “I am only teasing you. Come, you must be hungry. There is a wonderful feast waiting for you!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy felt like vomiting when she had heard that. She wanted to be done with this peace mission as quickly as possible and to stay away from these dark celestial sects as far as possible!

The Celestial Mistress looked at Yi Ping as she said gently, “You have defeated the Mad Conqueror. You have not only become a newly top seven celestial fighters now but you have the right to claim his divine sword, the Fire Emblem as your own.”

Yi Ping was stammering, “Huh? I am now one of the newly top seven celestial fighters?”

Han Lin smiled jovially, “Yes, you are now. But if you have too many divine swords, you can give it away. After all, no one is able to wield two divine swords!”

Yi Ping rubbed his nose as he looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy, “Shi Shi, then you can have the Fire Emblem. I don’t need it...”

The Celestial Mistress and Han Lin were secretly groaning.

Han Lin quickly said, “If you give her the Fire Emblem, she must also have the ability to protect it. Or else you will only be endangering her...”

Yi Ping smiled, “That is alright. I will protect her.”

In that instant, the hearts of the Celestial Mistress and Han Lin melted. They had never seen anyone such as him before and were envious of the Stellar Heaven Fairy!

Even for the Celeste Wind Maiden, there was an emotional movement in her eyes!

All of a sudden, Yi Ping said solemnly to the Celeste Wind Maiden. “You have said that your protégé sister the Chaste Lunar Maiden has been captured by the enemy? From your expressions, I am able to see your anxiety even though you are all trying to hide it well. Let’s us go find her first!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coldly, “If we are able to, I will have already tried. Do you know how many super exponents there are in the

camps of the Martial Deviant Clan? Even before we have reached there, we may have already died of exhaustion.”

Yi Ping coughed weakly, “Just give me the directions. I will try my very best to save her.”

The Celestial Mistress was startled as her admiration for him grew, “But you are injured.”

Yi Ping replied with a righteous determination, “No matter. As long as you can keep your words and not to go up to the Holy Ascension Sect, even if I die it will be for a good cause.”

The Celestial Mistress was trembling.

Slowly she bent down to the Mad Conqueror as she searched his body before she gasped aloud, “It is really on him. This is his Fire Kirin Divine Pill, the only one to exist. You can have it. But be warned. Even though it can boost your martial strength but it have a maddening effect.”

She reached out for her hairpin before breaking it into halve as a pill popped out, “This is the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill that I have spent over a century to concoct. It may aid you to quickly replenish your martial strength and aid you in your internal injuries. It can even aid you to further your celestial practice.”

Han Lin was shocked, “Mistress, this is your years of painstaking efforts and it is meant for your Divine Tribulations! Moreover, you are injured now...”

The Celestial Mistress turned around and even though no one could see that she was crying but they could all see her tears dropping on the ground, “If we can save Jing’Er, then it will be worth it. Am I right to say so?”

Han Lin reminded her, “Be cold and emotionless. To dominate the others rather than be dominated. Be selfish, a moment of heroics is always foolhardy. The interests of the Celestial Aiel Sect must always come first. These are your rules. Have you forgotten? Many will surely die if we rush into their formations just like this and you will be wasting your

Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill. Jing'Er is a golden celestial. The dark celestials will not hesitate to devour her at the first notice..."

The Celestial Mistress interrupted quietly, "Never mind..."

All of a sudden, Yi Ping was trembling as he said aloud. "I will surely bring her back! I will go!"

Everyone was startled to see that Yi Ping face was full of his warm tears!

It was because he knew how precious this Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill was to the Celestial Mistress!

To give it up, means that she was also giving up a chance to further her celestial practice!

Or even her life when the time had come for her Divine Tribulations!

And because she really resembled his mother too much and the thought that she may die stirred up the emotions in his heart!

The Celeste Wind Maiden said quietly, "Maybe we can succeed with just a few of us. Let me join you in this undertaking."

Yi Ping said, "Maiden, this can be very dangerous..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden said softly as she looked at him quietly, "You can call me Xiao Qian. I am no stranger to dangers. I won't hinder you at all. Moreover by now, I know roughly the formations of the Martial Deviant Clan. There may be a way to avoid most of the formations and time wise, this may prove crucial."

Suddenly the Celestial Mistress said with a gentle smile, "It seems that the Celestial Realm isn't such a cold place after all that even Qian'Er can be moved..."

Chapter 123: Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears of the Melody Palace

Lie Qing inhaled deeply, “We are safe now? Can we take a breather first?”

Yixian the Celestial Fairy nodded gently as she slowed down her pace. She loosened her Divine Emerald Force as she put the unconscious maiden that they had rescued earlier gently on a comfortable patch of grass.

Yunzi was inhaling deeply as she had a hard time catching up with the pace of Yixian, Youxue and Lele!

Youxue sighed softly, “Sister Yixian, I didn’t know how you can carry her so long with your martial force through these mountains. It is really such a difficult feat!”

Lele asked casually, “So how is she?”

Yixian had to restore the delicate balance of her intricate energies channels first so that was why she was not able to reply them.

But after she had renewed her vital energies with her Eternal Heavenly Tears intricate energies while taking a quick breather, she said gently. “Her internal injuries are serious but I have already sealed her most crucial accupoints with my Eternal Heavenly Tears. She will be able to recover.”

Lele was impressed as she took the pulse of the unconscious maiden, “The celestial practitioner that had injured her had ensured that she was not able to recover her full martial strength even if she has somehow survived. But your Eternal Heavenly Tears is now able to mend her broken channels. But I am wondering if it is a good thing that you have expended your intricate internal strength for a complete stranger.”

Youxue said, “That is right. We don’t know if she is a foe or friend yet. Maybe she is not a foe today but she will be in the future. Who knows?”

Yixian heaved a soft sigh as she replied gently, "I don't know. But when I see the look in her eyes earlier, I had a familiar feeling..."

Lie Qing said, "That is because our good Sister Xian'Er is too soft hearted..."

Yixian smiled gently, "That is what you think. Don't forget that I am the Heartless Celestial Fairy. I have probably killed more martial exponents that you can imagine. That is why..."

Her eyes became melancholy, "That is why my divine tribulations have always been more difficult than the rest."

Yunzi offered an assuring comfort to her, "It is not too late to change. Do you still remember the intricate formula of the Immortal Practice that you have told us? The virtue of Heaven is compassionate. It is not too late to change now."

Lele sighed softly, "I was a dark celestial practitioner in the past. I don't know how it happens but somehow I have become a true celestial practitioner now..."

Lie Qing laughed softly, "That is because despite your self-insolent, you have a kind heart. That is why."

Lele muttered, "Forget about the praise. What do you mean that I am self-insolent?"

Youxue said gently to Yunzi, "Sister, are you still able to continue?"

Yunzi smiled weakly as she nodded, "I am alright..."

Even though she had taken the Negative Core Divine Pill, causing her internal strength to boost tremendously but the run was taking a toll on her.

Yixian, Youxue and Lele were three of the best swiftness movement experts and they had not reached their limits yet.

However, Yunzi and Lie Qing were feeling the fatigue.

That was why Lie Qing had asked for a breather.

Lie Qing smiled coldly, "I say, let's us take them out..."

Yunzi smiled quietly, "In our group, only Yixian and you are our best fighters while our enemies numbered in the hundreds. In fact, they are pursuing us now."

Lele interrupted as she pointed to the heavenly mark that was on her forehead, "Excuse me! I don't remember a time that Sister Xian'Er and Qing'Er have ever defeated me! Moreover, I have opened my Heavenly Eyes now while they have not. Also my state of divinity is the highest among the five of us here."

Youxue, Yunzi, Yixian and Lie Qing said at the same time, "Yes, yes..."

But they were secretly thinking, "Lele may be very good in her martial achievements but when it comes to dealing with numerous martial exponents at the same time, she may not be a consistent fighter ..."

Having been with Lele for some time, they had already known that while Lele was rarely injured in a fight, she was prone to flee when things got out of hand. Moreover, she had rarely taken her opponents into account before a fight; it was always a fight first, talk later approach.

In short, she was a reckless fighter!

Yixian looked at her surroundings keenly while Youxue did the same before she said gently, "We should be safe for a while."

But Youxue cautioned, "There may not be anyone within range that is following us. But I got a feeling we are being tracked and followed."

Earlier when they had barely fled the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan, they were pursued immediately by hundreds of celestial fighters!

There were a few times when they were almost been set upon by them in these unfamiliar terrains!

It was through the combined efforts of Yixian and Youxue that the group was able to avoid direct confrontations except for a few minor skirmishes.

Yixian was impressed by Youxue sharp innate sense and knew that she

must have her reasons for saying so!

Even Yunzi was nodding quietly, “I have uneasy feeling also. It is like someone is waiting for an opportunity to strike us.”

Youxue closed her eyes to ponder quietly while the group looked at her quietly.

They knew her past. Youxue was pursued and tracked by the Virtuous Palace for years and naturally, she had developed an innate instinct to evade her pursuers!

Youxue opened her eyes before saying softly, “There should be more a group. At least three. But I can’t be certain. They seem to be taking their time.”

Yunzi analyzed as she looked at the Stellar Sanctuary in the dark skies above, “That is because we have already fallen into their encirclements. They must have mapped our escape.”

Lie Qing nodded, “Any fools know we are heading towards the direction of the Stellar Sanctuary and the Unmoving Mountains.”

Youxue looked at Yunzi and Lele, “Funny. I thought that we are supposed to be peace envoys and now we are being attacked by a great multitude of celestial clans before we even explained our intentions.”

Yunzi smiled weakly...

Lele protested weakly as she pointed at the unconscious maiden, “They are trying to do something funny her. Isn’t that the martial code of the orthodox martial fraternity to help someone...”

Lie Qing giggled, “Someone from the Celestial Palace will actually say that...”

But Lele ignored her as she continued, “I didn’t know they will turn so hostile! Well, we did explain afterwards to some of the pursuers but they refused to listen and insist we surrender our divine swords and blaming us for the death of the Gold Deviant Master!”

She immediately looked at Youxue, “Look what you have done! You have

completed screwed up this peace mission!"

Youxue replied casually, "I didn't know that he is the Gold Deviant Master and I didn't know he can't take a beating. I am sure that when I have left, he is still breathing."

Yixian was smiling bitterly...

Lie Qing was sighing, "My good sisters! I can't believe we really mess up big this time and we have promised Ping'Er we will surely accomplish the mission!"

Lele asked, "Do you think that we can go back to explain?"

Yixian shook her head, "Better not. I have an uneasy feeling now and their killing malevolent are everywhere in these mountains. We should have changed our plans when we saw them fighting. They are all overcome by blood lusts and won't stop until they have obtained their objectives."

Yunzi had turned ashen as she looked at Yixian, "That is right..."

All of a sudden, she said panicky. "If we are having such a difficult time here, then Yi Ping and Sister Shi Shi must be having a more difficult time than us! And there are only the two of them! This peace mission is doomed to fail from the start because they have decided to wipe each other from the start and we are caught in the middle!"

Lie Qing was startled as she took a step backward while muttering, "Ping'Er...we really shouldn't have split. Now it is too late. Quick, we must head towards Ping'Er direction and aid him!"

Youxue lowered her gaze as she said quietly, "We have been separated for more than a day and this route that we are taking now is not the original route. Our enemies are goading us to an ambush point..."

Lele said suddenly, "Well, don't let them lead us. Let's us fight our way through the route of our own choosing!"

Yunzi was smiling bitterly, "There are more than twenty thousand celestial practitioners from the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial

Aiel Sect that are fighting in these mountains. All the possible routes are where the fighting are the fiercest. It is even a more unwise choice.”

Lele raised her thin eyebrows, “So there is nothing we can do?”

Yunzi replied, “We can only adopt a wait and see tactic, changing our course of action accordingly to each situation.”

Lie Qing could only nodded as she turned aside. She was trembling while saying, “Ping’Er, please don’t die before we do...”

Yixian murmured, “Qing’Er...”

Lele sighed softly, “Weird. Suddenly I don’t dislike the Ye Yin and Shen Xingyue anymore and wished that they are here. Maybe even Lingfeng...”

Youxue nodded, “The Ascension Goddess has a fear factor around her. Even if we can’t fight with all these difficult opponents, with the aid of the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue we can probably fight our way through and rejoin Ping’Er in no time.”

Lele said coldly, “That is if they are joining Ping’Er group in the first place. Do you think that the Ascension Goddess will give up any chance to follow Ping’Er?”

Yixian said gently, “The Ascension Goddess isn’t that bad...”

Lele said to her, “Sister Xian’Er, look into my eyes. Surely you don’t expect me not to know what has happened that night. That is why you are so defensive of the Ascension Goddess?”

Youxue and Lie Qing asked at the same time, “That night? What is going on?”

Yixian said gently, “Lele, I don’t know what you are trying to say...”

Lele stroked her long hair that was at her bosoms, “Sister Xian’Er! You are pretending to be ignorant. Where are your chastity mark? Do you dare to show it to us? The Ascension Goddess and you have actually...”

Yixian gasped and she was immediately flustered. She panicky pulled Lele aside, “My good sister! Please don’t say anymore...”

Lele protested, "You don't need to deny. I was there and heard it. You are not the only one that is sleepless that night..."

Lie Qing asked coldly, "What is going on?"

Youxue was asking the same, "That is right. What is going on?"

Yixian panicky said, "Lele, please no more. I..."

Lie Qing asked again and she was really direct, "Sister Xian'Er, do you still have your chastity mark?"

Yixian quickly regained her composure as she looked at Lie Qing and Lele sternly, "Don't forget that I am Ping'Er first consort. Is something wrong with you people?"

Lie Qing and Youxue were muttering incoherently while Lele was trying to say something when Yixian had suddenly pulled her aside with an icy look!

Yixian said gently, "We are all sisters, am I right? And we are in it together. We should be trying to find a way out of this crisis first instead of having infighting. Isn't it as good as falling into the trap of the enemy?"

Yunzi nodded, "When fear and anxiety overtakes us, it is time for our enemies to strike. We must not give them any opportunity!"

Yixian said gently with a soft sigh, "The Ascension Goddess Ye Yin is one of us. The same goes for Sister Xingyue too. As you all know, we won't be married to Ping'Er if it is not for Ye Yin. It is because we do not trust her to keep the appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary a secret to the Holy Ascension Sect. That is the only way..."

Lie Qing said quietly, "I am sorry. We should have more trust in one another. But I still can't believe that she gets to Dual Celestial with Ping'Er instead of anyone of us! Just because we want her to keep the appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary a secret? Now that we know that Yu'Er and Mei'Er are actually the daughters of the Lord Supreme, that agreement should be voided. Really, she has too much of an advantage over us!"

Youxue sighed softly, "Sister Xian'Er, I am also sorry. After all that you have done for me, I should have more faith in you. But really, we are all victims. The Ascension Goddess is really too much."

Yunzi smiled, "Actually we just need to get along and to know each other better. Don't forget she had aided us too in the aftermath of the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Without her, we cannot pull through too."

Yixian nodded gently as she casted her heavenly eyes at the lightning storms ahead, "Right now, I am most worry for Ping'Er. I wonder if he is able to cope without us..."

Lele was guilty, "I am sorry for bringing all this up. It is all my fault."

Yixian held Lele's hands gently, "This is nothing to be worried about. Don't forget that we are sisters in our past life too."

Lele nodded with bleary eyes.

Yixian gave an assuring gentle smile, "Let's keep it this minor squabble among ourselves and not give Ping'Er a cause to worry."

Lie Qing tried to put on a brave front as she gave a wryly smile, "Let's see if we can survive first!"

All of a sudden, there was a moan from the maiden who was unconscious earlier!

Yixian and Youxue were immediately by her side as they examined her pulses!

The Chaste Lunar Maiden gasped aloud when she saw them. But when she had recognized them as the group that had suddenly appeared to save her, she began to lower her guard.

Yixian asked, "Are you alright?"

The Chaste Lunar Maiden gasped aloud, "Revelation Star! Melody Star, Luminous Star, is that you? And the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden?"

This time, Yixian, Yunzi, Lele and Lie Qing were all startled that she was able to call out the names of their previous incarnations!

Lele looked at her, “Who are you...”

But before she could finish asking, the Chaste Lunar Maiden was in her embrace tearfully. “Melody Star, it is you! I know it is you...”

When she saw the startled expressions on Lele, she exclaimed. “You don’t remember who I am? Maybe it has been too long. I am your protégé mistress the Lunar Heaven Fairy!”

Lele blinked her eyes rapidly as she asked, “I don’t know any Lunar Heaven Fairy but if you ask me who the Stellar Heaven Fairy is, I do know.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was startled and her heart skipped a heart as she thought, “Shi Shi is still alive?!”

Yixian, Yunzi, Youxue, Lie Qing and Lele exchanged confused looks before Yixian said gently to her, “Maybe we are who you know in the past but that remains the past. I am Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy. This is Lele the Joyful Goddess, Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress, Dugu Yunzi and Xiao Youxue.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was in disbelief, “But you have the Heavenly Earth Sword, the Divine Echo and the White Phoenix...”

She looked at Lie Qing and Yunzi with a soft sigh, “Maybe you are telling the truth. The White Phoenix is now in the hands of the Celestial Ocean Heavenly Maiden and Luminous Star now wields a different divine sword that I did not recognize.”

Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing looked at each other. She could actually recite the divine names of their divine swords!

Lie Qing could tell that she was not lying so she asked curiously, “Maybe you can start by telling us about yourself first and what has caused you to be in this circumstance?”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden casted a woeful look at them, “I am originally from the Melody Palace and my original celestial fraternity name is the Lunar Heaven Fairy. After I have ascended to the Celestial Realm, I have joined the Celestial Aiel Sect. Since then, I am now known as the Chaste

Lunar Maiden. If you want to know, I am also one of three Celestial Priestess of the Celestial Aiel Sect.”

This time, the maidens were startled and exchanged astonished looks!

The Chaste Lunar Maiden’s eyes were melancholy as she recalled the day that she had forsaken the vows of the Melody Palace to join the Celestial Aiel Sect...

The Celestial Mistress had said to her, “You look down on a dark celestial clan?”

She had replied coldly, “I will never forsake the vows of the Melody Palace and join another celestial clan. Even if I traverse the entire Celestial Realm on my own, I will seek out my clan protégés and the whereabouts of the Melody Palace!”

The Celestial Mistress replied coldly, “Then you can forget about seeking for the Melody Palace. It is because the Melody Palace no longer exists. It is forever gone. It is destroyed many centuries ago!”

She was startled but she had asked, “Why should I believe you?”

The Celestial Mistress said nonchalantly as she unrolled her sleeve to reveal her chastity mark, “This is the unique chastity mark of the Melody Palace and you have it too. Because you have encountered me first in the Celestial Realm, consider yourself lucky. Or your fate will be extremely cruel.”

She was startled, “Just who are you?!”

The Celestial Mistress answered said nonchalantly, “I am the first Heavenly Melody Mistress of the Melody Palace, Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears.”

She was shocked as she quickly bowed her respect, “Forgive me, I didn’t know...”

The Celestial Mistress halted her, “You did nothing wrong. The Melody Palace did exist here and was founded by the Second Heavenly Melody Mistress but she had perished in the Stellar Sanctuary. Therefore

afterward, I have renamed the Melody Palace into the Celestial Aiel Sect. No one knows about it.”

She gasped, “Why did you...”

The Celestial Mistress said quietly, “I have a secret. What you are seeing is not my true state of divinity but my suppressed divinity. I have used my Inverting Universe Force to suppress my true state. It is because I have a great enemy and I don’t want her to find me. You mustn’t tell the others...”

She asked, “Mistress, who can possibly be your contender?”

The Celestial Mistress said nonchalantly but there was a glittered in her eyes, “A true Goddess...”

Her thoughts were interrupted when Yixian asked her, “You are really from the Celestial Aiel Sect? And a Celestial Priestess? We are actually envoys that are sent by the Holy Ascension Sect to argue peace with the Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan. Do you think that you will be able to help us?”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden replied ruefully, “Envoys from the Holy Ascension Sect? So you have joined the Holy Ascension Sect?”

Yixian replied gently, “Actually we are just helping the Holy Ascension Sect. Except for Yunzi who is from the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan, we are all actually from the Tranquil City. Have you heard of this small celestial clan before?”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden gave a startled cry, “The Tranquil City?! The celestial clan that has defeated the Immortal Saint of Swords?”

Lele asked, “You know?”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden nodded, “Who has never heard of such a startling battle? In fact, the Celestial Mistress had wanted to send an envoy to the Tranquil City to bring the new Lord of the Tranquil City under her sphere of influence but has decided against it when she had heard that the Ascension Goddess was also there.”

She looked at Yunzi, “You are a protégé of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan. Why are you travelling with the Tranquil City? Surely the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan is not going to forgive such a transgression. Because you are friends?”

Yunzi smiled faintly, “I am the new protégé leader and master of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden gasped in disbelief, “You are...really? Really, you are the protégé leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan?”

Yunzi nodded as she replied quietly, “Before that, actually I am also from the Tranquil City. It is a long story. I tell you the next time.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden sighed softly, “Alright...”

She added, “So it is true that the Lord of the Tranquil City has joined the faction belonging to the Holy Ascension Sect. If I am able to get back to the camps of the Celestial Aiel Sect, I may be able to help you. What is it that the Holy Ascension Sect wants?”

Yixian sighed softly, “The Holy Ascension Sect hopes that the Celestial Aiel Sect will not ascend the heaven stairs of the Holy Ascension Sect. In exchange, the Holy Ascension Sect and her allies won’t stop the Celestial Aiel Sect from entering the Stellar Sanctuary.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden had a faint smile, “Actually, it is not the intention of the Celestial Aiel Sect to storm the Stellar Sanctuary.”

Yixian asked, “The Celestial Aiel Sect intends to attack the Holy Ascension Sect?”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden smiled weakly, “Not that. Besides the Stellar Sanctuary, there is still the Astronomic Stellar Formation. The weird thing is that we have been encircling the Unmoving Mountains for days but there is still no sight of it.”

She had already revealed more than she should but maybe they really resembled her ex-protégés from the Melody Palace, she had felt a sense of familiarity with them. Moreover, they had saved her life.

Lie Qing asked, "Why did the Celestial Aiel Sect wants to challenge the Astronomic Stellar Formation?"

The Chaste Lunar Maiden replied weakly, "It is because there must be a purpose for the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Because it is such a rare occasion to gather so many hundreds of celestial clans to the Unmoving Mountains, the Celestial Mistress has decided that the best way to make full use of such an occasion is to try our luck in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. It is because unlike the trials of the Stellar Sanctuary, numbers are needed in the Astronomic Formation."

Youxue and Yunzi exchanged secret looks as they thought, "So that means numbers are actually useless in the Stellar Sanctuary. No wonder the Holy Ascension Sect is allowing their adversaries to go ahead first. Is it a ploy to finish off the Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan?"

Yixian said gently, "Sadly, the Astronomic Stellar Formation will never appear again."

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was startled, "What do you mean?"

Yixian replied, "It is because the Astronomic Stellar Formation has already been destroyed. It will never appear again."

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was astonished, "How is it possible?"

Yixian smiled weakly, "It is a long story."

The Chaste Lunar Maiden lowered her gaze, "I know I shouldn't have said this. In the Celestial Realm, partial secrets and any celestial secrets are highly classified and forbidden to share. Do you think you will be able to tell me more?"

Yixian nodded gently, "It is not a great secret anyway. I can tell you as we move along. Is that alright? If this direction is the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan, then we need to hurry to the camps of the Celestial Aiel Sect. If there is any delay, Ping'Er and the Stellar Heaven Fairy will be in danger."

The Chaste Lunar Maiden gasped expressively, "The Stellar Heaven

Fairy is with your group? Shi Shi...”

She recomposed herself as she asked curiously, “This Ping’Er, he is the Lord of the Tranquil City?”

When she had mentioned, all the other maidens were silently looking at the brilliant lightning storms in the heavens. Their eyes were melancholy and their hearts were heavy as they prayed to the heavens that Yi Ping would not come to harm at all; in their hearts, Yi Ping occupied a pivot position!

She was slightly startled. She could tell from their expressions that these cold and forbidding maidens actually had a soft side. In order for any celestial practitioners to ascend to the Celestial Realm as true celestials, they must first put aside their mortal affections but these maidens seemed to be the affectionate types which made them unusual!

It was because in order for true celestial practitioners to continue their celestial practice, they must first overcome the Emotion State of Divinity. Those celestials that could not overcome this staging will turn to dust or be afflicted with such serious internal injuries that it would only be a matter of time that they would perish!

Yixian composed herself as she said with a soft gentle sigh, “That is right. We need to hurry to them and hope that we are not too late.”

Lie Qing cast her long raven dark hair aside as she said with beaming eyes, “Let’s go! I have recovered my vital breath already!”

Yunzi said quietly, “Don’t worry about me. I will surely catch up later. Just go ahead of me!”

Lele looked at the other sisters with woeful eyes, “Maybe allow me to distract our enemies for everyone. Then we can have a chance for survival and save Yi Ping too. Forgive my past antics. I have to admit that I did it on purpose. I can get bored easily with nothing to do. If you have slept in the coffin like I do for centuries, then maybe you will understand how I feel. I am...just trying to get everyone attention. Good or bad reactions, I don’t really care...”

Youxue, Yixian, Yunzi and Lie Qing were startled. They had never expected Lele to be the self-sacrificing one!

Yixian flashed Lele a cold piercing look and the air around her turned extremely cold, “No, you are not going. I should be the one that should be the bait. If I go, there may be a chance I can shake them off and survive. No one else has my rich experiences in dealing with these martial exponents...”

Lie Qing hummed coldly, “Speaking of experiences, don’t forget about me. Only I am able to buy enough time for everyone.”

Youxue flashed her mesmerizing eyes, “I go with you Sister Qing’Er. After all, you are my clan ‘grand matriarch’!”

Lie Qing laughed softly, “If you go, then the Virtuous Palace will really have no successor in the Celestial Realm!”

Youxue smiled faintly, “There...is still Sister Yun!”

Lie Qing replied, “She is a protégé leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan now and can’t be qualified as my successor!”

Yunzi smiled with a quiet demeanor, “That is true. Youxue, you should simply stay. Be good and listen to me!”

Lele interrupted, “No, no! What about me?”

When the Chaste Lunar Maiden saw the close bond between them, she was reminded of her bond with the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Exalt Heaven Fairy. She felt a heartbreaking pain in her heart as eyes swelled in her eyes!

So she beamed melancholy, “Please. I plead with the lot of you. Can you please return to the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan? And help to save the Exalt Heaven Fairy? She is the maiden that you have seen earlier with Grandmaster Bai Liangong. We need to help her...”

Yunzi gasped, “Grandmaster Bai Liangong! That man that we have dueled with earlier is the Martial Grandmaster?”

Youxue said coldly, “Let us not forget we have screwed up the peace

mission with the Martial Deviant Clan and are on the way to aid Yi Ping. Ping'Er or a stranger, who is more important? You decide!"

Yunzi analyzed quietly, "It does seem to me that this Exalt Heaven Fairy belongs to the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan and won't be in mortal danger anytime soon."

The Chaste Lunar Maiden pleaded again, "Please. I know that I am asking for too much..."

Chapter 124: The Celeste Wind Maiden

Yi Ping, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Celeste Wind Maiden moved rapidly through the forested mountains. Even when a lightning bolt had flashed down thunderously and exploded a tree in the vicinity, they did not slow down their paces.

The Celeste Wind Maiden had taken them through several mountain paths. Along the way, they were met by dozens of celestial practitioners of the various celestial clans that were under the sphere of the Celestial Aiel Sect, giving them vital information and warning them of enemies ahead.

Finally they had reached a mountain path that was littered with many newly dead. It seemed that a recent battle had just been fought here!

Yi Ping looked around for the wounded but he quickly discovered that there were none!

Yi Ping sighed at the number of dead as he clenched his fists.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped, "What has happened yet?"

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked at her dark surroundings keenly as she said aloud, "You can come out now. I know that you are there."

To the surprise of Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy, dozens of celestial practitioners actually emerged from the shadows!

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coldly, "So it is the Lofty Sword Sect, the Sovereign Sword Clan and the Espirit Clan."

She quickly whispered, "Don't worry, they are on our side. The Lord of the Lofty Sword Sect, Lu Zhongli is one of the strongest celestial fighters and his clan is one of three strongest three clans that are on our side."

The protégé leader of the Lofty Sword Sect, Lu Zhongli said coolly. "So it is the Celestial Priestess..."

At the same time, he was startled to see Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy. It was because he did not recognize them as any leaders of the

Celestial Aiel Faction but the fact that they were carrying divine swords on them marked them out differently from the ordinary celestial practitioners!

He quickly added, “Unfortunately, you have come a little too late and miss the battle by an hour. Who are these two?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said quietly, “They are the honorable guests of the Celestial Aiel Sect, the Lord of the Tranquil City and the Stellar Heaven Fairy.”

Lu Zhongli thought, “Why is name of the Lord of the Tranquil City so familiar?”

Before he could ponder further, he was startled by the Celeste Wind Maiden who said to him, “And I didn’t come to partake in the battle.”

There were mutterings from the dozens of celestial practitioners that were presented.

Lu Zhongli groaned, “Then what are you here for?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said, “We are going to the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan to teach Grandmaster Bai a lesson. Do you want to join us?”

This time, all the celestial practitioners from the Lofty Sword Sect, the Sovereign Sword Clan and the Espirit Clan were stunned!

A thin man from the crowd said, “Surely you are not thinking of asking us to assault the bases of the Martial Deviant Clan? We have just been through a difficult battle and have not recovered. You have no idea the grim situation that we are in earlier; it was only the timely withdrawal of the Fire Martial Master and his protégés that we have managed to turn the tide of the battle in our favor.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coolly, “Greetings. Elder Li Yan of the Espirit Clan.”

She had deliberated. It was as though she wanted Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy to know who they were, stating all their names and their

clans slowly.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy thought, “Why is she being so polite and respectful to us? She doesn’t have to introduce them to us...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden soon interrupted her thoughts as she smirked coldly, “It is not a request or an edict. Anyway, we are going there now. Rest well.”

And to the startled surprise of everyone, she had already walked away!

Lu Zhongli was startled as he stammered, “You are really going there!? You won’t be able to come back!”

Even though he had known that the Celeste Wind Maiden was one of the newly seven super celestial fighters but the camps of the Martial Deviant Faction were filled with many crouching tigers and hidden dragons!

But the Celeste Wind Maiden did not turn back anymore and her two companions were showing no sign of fear either as they followed her hurriedly!

He sighed softly as he looked at Li Yan, “Madness! Foolish! Or they are defectors?”

Li Yan laughed aloud and for a moment, his martial laughter was rumbling louder than the tremors of the mountains and the earthquakes!

Lu Zhongli asked, “You also find it funny?”

Li Yan looked at his long sword, “If the protégé master of the Espirit Clan is here today, I would surely introduce him to this Lord of the Tranquil City.”

Lu Zhongli was bewildered, “The weak looking pale man that is with the Celeste Wind Maiden?”

Li Yan laughed, “That is right. Even though he is quiet but did you see the righteousness in his eyes and the indomitable spirit that is around him? It is like nothing is impossible!”

Lu Zhongli hummed coldly, “Righteousness nowadays isn’t worth much.

Weird, why is the protégé leader of the Sovereign Sword Clan so quiet?”

The Sovereign Lord of the Sovereign Sword Clan said quietly, “Pardon me. I was overwhelmed by the pureness of their divine swords, especially that Lord of the Tranquil City.”

Lu Zhongli hummed coldly, “They are just lucky to have a divine sword. If I am not ally with the Celestial Aiel Sect, I will surely seize his divine sword. He looked so weak as though he is going to die anytime.”

The Sovereign Lord smiled weakly, “My martial skills are not as good as the Elder Li Yan or Protégé Master Lu and I am lucky that I do not have a divine sword in my hands. Therefore I count myself fortunate not to become your target. However, how do your sword skills fare against the Immortal Saint of Swords?”

Lu Zhongli hummed coldly, “Naturally by a wide margin. He is a true sword saint. Are you trying to say that you have the backings of the Immortal Saint of Swords and even if you are weaker than us, we have better not to mess with you?”

The Sovereign Lord smiled, “I will not dare to offend either the Espirit Clan or the Lofty Sword Sect. In fact, it is my honor to fight alongside the major celestial clans of the Celestial Realm. However that weak man that you have seen earlier, that Lord of the Tranquil City had just defeated the Immortal Saint of Swords a couple of months ago. That is why I am in awe of him naturally.”

It came as a thunderbolt to Lu Zhongli and Elder Li Yan! It was because they had suddenly why the name of the Lord of the Tranquil sounded so familiar!

They began to stare blankly in front of them for a long time, long after the Celeste Wind Maiden, the Lord of the Tranquil City and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were long gone...

Yi Ping coughed weakly as he looked at the back of the Celeste Wind Maiden with her splendor long flowing white hair. Her steps were extremely graceful and the ground that she had covered left no evidence that she had ever walked past. At the same time, she was constantly on

her alert as she watched her surroundings keenly.

The Stellar Heaven Fairy whispered to Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, are you feeling better now? Do you want to have a rest first?"

Yi Ping shook his head as he sighed miserably, "We must hurry. I am so stupid. We shouldn't have split into two groups in the first place..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden turned around to say coldly, "If you want to take a rest, by all means do so. It is not like we are in a hurry."

Yi Ping was startled, "But the Chaste Lunar Maiden..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden interrupted coldly, "To me, she is dead. Anyone that falls into the hands of the Martial Deviant Clan is dead. That applies the same to your companions too. Frankly speaking, it is foolish of them to even confront Bai Liangong. Do you know that besides the Martial Deviant Clan and the Five Deviant Masters, there are still five other powerful celestial clans that are also in their camps? The Purple Divine Clan, the Giga Sword Sect, the Brilliant Access Clan, the Heartless Manor and the Divine Shadow Clan."

Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were startled that she could be so cold.

Yi Ping asked, "Then why did you offer to come with us..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden seemed to be momentarily startled before she looked away. Slowly she lifted her eyes to the dark heavens as she muttered softly, "Even knowing that it is a suicidal thing to do, you are still going to the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan and her allies?"

She had answered his question with her question!

Yi Ping said firmly, "Unless I have seen it with my own eyes, then there may still be a chance that they are still all alive. Even if the chance is slim, I won't give it up. Even if it means I may die trying then so be it!"

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled with his reply as she asked, "What about your attainment? Don't you feel that it will be such a waste if you have died? After all the hardships and the difficulties in order to

ascend to the Celestial Realm...only to throw it away?"

Yi Ping said gently, "We can only live only once. I don't want to leave anything for regrets later. I know I surely won't be happy if I don't try. Yixian, Yunzi, Lie Qing, Lele and Youxue; they mean much to me just like the Chaste Lunar Maiden means much to you."

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked blankly, "I am not as noble as you. Or else I won't be a dark celestial...I am only thinking of preserving my own life."

Yi Ping shook his head, "That is not true. Or you won't volunteer to come with us."

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked at him quietly, "How do you know that I am not here to seize the Fire Kirin Divine Pill, Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill and the Fire Emblem Divine Sword?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped as she immediately drawn out the Fire Emblem, "You...!"

But Yi Ping raised his hand gently to the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "Shi Shi, wait. If she really meant what she had just said then she won't tell us this much. Rather, she is just trying to persuade us to think again."

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked coldly, "You really think that is so?"

Yi Ping nodded slowly, "That is right!"

The Celeste Wind Maiden hummed coldly, "That is only what you have thought. I am luring you to a deserted place first before I get down to my dirty acts. Do you know that her Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill is so miraculous that it can turn a dark celestial into a golden celestial? Despite all my sweats for the Celestial Aiel Sect, the Celestial Mistress won't give it to me. I still can't believe that she has actually given it to you. "

Yi Ping took out the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill and opened his palm, "You can have it. There is no need to fight over it. I don't have the intention to consume it and can't bear to. I sense that the Celestial Mistress values it a lot. But through this divine pill, if you can become a

golden celestial then it will be a good thing and I will be happy for you too.”

He threw the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill to her while saying to the Stellar Heaven Fairy, “Shi Shi, let’s us hurry!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was stunned into disbelief when Yi Ping had given her the Aiel Rejuvenate Divine Pill so casually!

She quickly composed herself as she sped with startling speed next to Yi Ping in an instant, surprising Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy!

Yi Ping was startled, “Why aren’t you leaving yet?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden smiled faintly as she lowered her eyes shyly, “There is still the Fire Kirin Divine Skill and the Fire Emblem Divine Sword.”

Yi Ping was startled as he said, “I have given the Fire Emblem Divine Sword to Shi Shi. As for the Fire Kirin Divine Pill, you can have...”

As he reached into his robe, he was startled when the Celeste Wind Maiden had suddenly put her hand on his. Immediately, there was an electrifying feeling and startling them!

The Celeste Wind Maiden was flustered as she said shyly, “I am only jesting with you. You don’t have to think that I have an ulterior motive. As for this Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill, how could you give it away simply like this? The Celestial Mistress has said that it is for you alone. Even if I am so bold, I will not think of taking it. Take it back!”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was truly startled, “But you just say that this Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill will be able to aid you to become a Golden Celestial? You really don’t want to have it? Something as precious and extraordinary as this cannot be found even in the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Even Yi Ping was a little taken aback!

The Celeste Wind Maiden smiled, “The Celestial Mistress has already promised me if she is alive, she will concoct another one for me. But I guess that time will not come anytime soon. Even though it is very

precious but the bonding between the Celestial Mistress and I meant more than anything. Do you get me?”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy asked curiously, “You are testing us?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden replied, “I just want to let you not to put your hopes too high...”

All of a sudden, she froze!

It was because on the other side of the distant cliff, four maidens had burst into view panicky and they were being pursued dozens of celestial practitioners!

She had recognized one of the maidens to be the Chaste Lunar Maiden and from the looks of it her injuries were not light as she had to be supported by the other three maidens!

She gasped, “Jing’Er, is that you?”

Yi Ping had recognized three of the maidens to be Lie Qing, Lele and Yunzi as he sped towards the edge of the cliff, shouting aloud. “Qing’Er, Lele, Yunzi!”

He looked around for Yixian and Youxue but there were no sight of them anywhere!

The Stellar Heaven Fairy gasped at the number of highly skilled martial practitioners that were surrounding Lie Qing, Lele and Yunzi!

But that was not the most startling!

It was because she had noticed a familiar sight!

The injured maiden on the other side was her protégé sister, the Lunar Heaven Fairy!

She had thought that she could never see her again...

But on the other hand, they were on the other side of the cliff and they were separated by a deep chasm. It was impossible to reach them unless they could fly!

Lele was startled as she gasped aloud when she had heard his voice, “It

is Yi Ping and Shi Shi!"

She quickly turned around and saw them on the other side of the lofty cliffs!

As she gasped aloud, she was forced to take three steps backward when three exponents with beaming swords hacked at her!

She simply could not believe the martial skills of these assailants as she raised her black scythe and the Divine Echo at the same time!

As she stepped backward, several beaming projectiles were aimed at her!

Yunzi immediately swirled the White Phoenix as she stepped forward to deflect the secret projectiles, "Lele! Watch out!"

At the same time, Lie Qing was enveloped by a blinding black halo as she raised her Perpetual Darkness as her opponents were hitting her with one slashing powerful windforce and sword energies after another!

Lie Qing coughed out blood after she had raised her left hand a thunderous martial blow from a muscular man who called himself the Fire Martial Master!

At the same time, she was struck by three beaming sword energies by a super exponent who called him the Dark Spectre!

She was sweating heavily as she mustered her Invincible Divine Force again and again each time it was dissipated by her foes' external forces as she muttered, "I...I am at my limit now? I am hallucinating now? I am hearing Ping'Er voice..."

Yi Ping felt anguish and helpless at the same time when he saw the dire straits that Lele, Yunzi and Lie Qing were in as more than thirty epitome fighters surrounded them!

He wished that he got a pair of wings now!

So near yet so far, separated by a vast chasm!

"Does Heavens want to torment me by letting me be a witness to their final moments?!"

All of a sudden, the Celeste Wind Maiden caught hold of Shi Shi and his wrist as she murmured while exercising her internal strength through them. "Lift your vital breath as you follow my rhythm. Do not panic!"

He was startled to feel as light as a feather; the Celeste Wind Maiden had leapt across the vast emptiness of space with a startling speed as she pulled them along with her!

Before he had even realized what had happened, he was already across the cliff in an instant without any mishaps!

He had never seen such an astonishing swiftness and lightning skill!

He was so stunned that he was murmuring, "That is impossible..."

But before he could thank her, the Celeste Wind Maiden had got into action by drawing out her Celeste Wind with a flurrying windforce as she flashed in front of Lele and Yunzi as she intercepted a dozen epitome fighters at the same time!

Lele was startled at her sudden appearance but as her sword was aimed at her attackers, she heaved a soft relief as she smiled jovially in the direction of Yi Ping and the Stellar Heaven Fairy. "You are finally here! A little longer, you can come and collect my body!"

Yi Ping was not slow to react either as he sped next to Lele in the next instant, drawing the Celestial Alice with such startling martial force that he fell the nearest opponent that was next to Lele as he smiled bitterly, "Lele, don't say inauspicious things...can you hold on a little longer while I go aid Qing'Er..."

There were five more assailants that were attacking Lele at the same time. They were all taken aback by the sudden appearance of the Celeste Wind Maiden and Yi Ping. When Yi Ping had suddenly cut down the Earth Martial Master who prided himself on his invincible external force, they were taken aback!

Naturally, they did not know that Yi Ping had used all his martial power in his desperation. With his enhanced strength from the Blood of the Kirin and his present martial foundation; even if he did not use the Asper

Divinity or the Ultrapowerful Force to further empowered his martial power, his full attack was extremely startling. Moreover, the Earth Martial Master did not hold him in particular regard and was withholding his full strength against the sudden appearance of the Celeste Wind Maiden!

But before the opposing celestial fighters could recover from their initial surprise; in a blink of an eye, Yi Ping had wounded another two when he had suddenly split the Celestial Alice into the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice!

The Water Martial Master was furious as he gave a mighty martial shout as he raised his entire martial power as he attacked Yi Ping with his fists, "Just who are you!"

The entire air exploded into furious martial force as the Water Martial Master attacked Yi Ping, forcing him to take two steps backward!

Yi Ping coughed out blood as he stumbled backward, "I am Yi Ping!"

Lele caught Yi Ping by his arm as she intercepted the Water Martial Master, "Ping'Er, are you alright? What happens to you? You are injured?"

The Water Martial Master shouted, "Worry about yourself first..."

He was suddenly interrupted when the Stellar Heaven Fairy had suddenly attacked him with her Melody Swordplay!

The sudden appearances of Yi Ping, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Celeste Wind Maiden rebalanced the battle equation!

Yunzi had immediately raised her White Phoenix as she struck down a foe with a stunning sword energies burst from the Ley Negative Sword Energies Technique and another foe was cut down by her speeding flying sword!

The assailants were secretly terrified of Yunzi. Along the way, she had actually killed and wounded numerous fighters that were on their side!

This beautiful maiden with a quiet demeanor was surrounded by an arsenal of secret sword techniques and hidden weapons; each time a

fighter had fallen into her hands, his fallen weapon would become hers to be used as a flying object or a flying sword!

Several powerful fighters who were stronger than her were killed by her irresistible flying sword technique; more so when she had used the White Phoenix as a flying sword. The martial force and sword energies that were cumulated by the White Phoenix were like the white claws of a terrifying soaring white phoenix tearing everyone but the most skilled apart!

But even for those skilled and powerful martial exponents that could parry her flying swords, it proved to be a physically draining thing and was dangerous if she happened to launch a second follow up attack. Therefore in the end, evading her flying swords was a better option.

There were many others that tried to attack her when she had appeared to be weaponless. But they were also caught off-guarded by her hidden waist sword and her finger stances!

Yunzi was imparted the Ley Negative Sword Energies by the Immortal Sword Sages and her finger stances were equally deadly!

Yunzi was surprised that she could actually hold so many of these experienced celestial practitioners. There were many reasons for this. Firstly, most of these martial practitioners were involved in an earlier battle. Secondly, Yunzi had now reawakened as a Golden Celestial. Thirdly, she was never weak in the first place. Most of the time, her enemies were much stronger than her but this time, her internal strength and martial power were at least on par with most of the attackers!

Lastly, in her desperation she had discovered that she was able to muster up to the seventh level of the Invincible Divine Force, mustering up to seven hovering wisps of rebounding protective force around her!

But like Lie Qing, Yunzi was already feeling the physical exertion and was wobbly. It was a miraculous thing that she was not injured but the same did not happen for Lie Qing who had taunted and taken the bulk of their enemies' attacks!

Lie Qing was virtually fighting for her life. Other than her enemies, she was totally immersed in nothing else!

That was why when she had heard Yi Ping's voice; she had thought that she was hallucinating!

The Fire Martial Master and the Dark Spectre were hitting her with such furies that Lie Qing was totally on the defensive. Behind her blinding black halo and surrounded by her eleven hovering blue wisps, her entire body had now turned golden!

It was because she was so badly bombarded from all sides that even her Invincible Divine Force was insufficient to protect her completely hence she was forced to use her Golden Impervious Skill at the same time!

Just as her defenses were about to give way, Yi Ping had burst through the other celestial fighters that were blocking him. He was beside Lie Qing in the next instant as he raised the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice with a powerful martial shout, "Heavens Encompassing Stroke!"

As the Fire Martial Master and the Dark Spectre once again utilized their extraordinary attacks to engage this new arrival, they were met by a thunderous martial force that swept them aside!

They were not the only ones that were being swept aside by the earthshaking martial force; a dozen epitome fighters that were beside them were also caught by the sweeping martial force!

Before the Fire Martial Master and the Dark Spectre could steady themselves, the Celeste Wind Maiden had suddenly appeared in front of them and had pierced through their hearts!

Lie Qing was startled by the appearance of Yi Ping. Only more so when Yi Ping had displayed the Heavens Encompassing Stroke which was even more powerful than her Invincible Divine Force!

She muttered as she fell into his embrace, "Ping'Er, is that really you? I have thought that I will never see you again..."

In that instant, her martial power departed from her and her Perpetual Darkness grew dim.

Yi Ping forced himself to stand still, using the Celestial Synonym Alice

as a support while raising the Celestial Antonym Alice protectively over Lie Qing. “Qing’Er, I am here now. Don’t be afraid...”

Lie Qing gasped weakly when she had suddenly noticed that Yi Ping had turned completely white!

She burst into tears as she tightened into his embrace, ““Ping’Er... Ping’Er...why...”

“Qing’Er, I am alright...how are you?”

Surrounded by thick columns of dust and powerful martial windforce, in that instant it was as though time had stood still for the two of them!

Chapter 125: The Exalt Heaven Fairy

Yang Min the Left Deviant Protector of the Martial Deviant Clan was alone in a dimly lit tent. She was trembling. It was not from the cold weather or from bath that she had taken in the cool spring river earlier that had caused her to tremble uncontrollably.

She was a dignified lady. But today, she felt that she had lost all her self-worth, all because of the Martial Grandmaster Bai Liangong. She hated him and was biding her time. However, she knew that he was aware of it as well. That was why she had spent years to gain his trust and devising stratagems for him.

She had never truly gained his trust even though he had promoted her to be his Left Protector. In fact, her position was as precarious as ever. It proved the saying of 'Accompanying the Liege Lord is akin to a company with a Tiger' once more.

Bai Liangong had never treated her with decency either did he respects her in front of the others despite her seniority in the Martial Deviant and would humiliate her whenever he felt like it.

She lifted her trembling fingers to wipe her melancholy tears as she gasped her bosoms bitterly.

But the most heartbreaking thing today was seeing the Lunar Heaven Fairy again after so many years!

It immediately reminded her of her once exalted past...

Her celestial name used to be the Exalt Heaven Fairy and she was from the Melody Palace. She used to be most exalted of the exalts among the celestial maidens in the Melody and that was how she had got her celestial name.

Her extraordinary beauty and elegance were renowned throughout the celestial fraternity of the lower realm!

But shortly after she had ascended to the Celestial Realm, she began to lament her fate. The Celestial Realm was not what she had been

expecting and she had fallen victim to Bai Liangong the Martial Grandmaster and was humiliated by him.

She reached out for her fragrant sachet, a circular metallic with intricate designs as she took deep sniff to calm herself down. Bai Liangong had drugged her and forced her to take the Hundred Fragrance Sniffs, a potent drug with strong addictive influences.

If she were to stop taking the Hundred Fragrance Sniffs, she would have withdrawal symptoms and the cravings alone would turn from pleasures to nightmarish torments!

However that was not the reason why she was trembling.

She was revolted by Bai Liangong; his touch, his wicked eyes and his jesting laughter. Everything that was to do with him completely repulsed her!

That was why she had laid for herself three courses of action to undermine him!

The first was to subtly create a diversion with the Celestial Aiel Faction and to weaken his overall influences.

The second was to seek an opportunity within the Stellar Sanctuary. She was not his match and his Martial Deviant Force was too overwhelming. But she had concluded that hidden in the Stellar Sanctuary, were numerous epitome divine skills to be found!

Bai Liangong himself had found the Martial Deviant Skill in the Stellar Sanctuary and that ultimately put him among the best fighters in the Celestial Realm. She concluded with her intellect, she may have some luck.

Thirdly, she had hoped to find some former celestial acquaintances that she had known in the lower realm among the celestial clans that were allied with the Holy Ascension Sect. Failing that, she would defect to the Holy Ascension Sect at the first opportunity.

It was a gambit of course. The Holy Ascension Sect was not known to trust defectors from the dark celestial clans that defected on their own.

She smiled bitterly to herself, "I have degraded my dignity to this low?"

She wept as she muttered to herself, "I have thought that after I have ascended to the Celestial Realm, I will meet the knight errant of my heart. Eventually we will dual celestial together and be a pair of enviable celestials. Our love story will enter the annals of the Celestial Realm and recite for all time..."

She was shivering and could no longer bear to continue!

It was because she knew that it was not true!

It was a dream that had escaped her; the maidens of the Melody Palace adhered to their chastity vows for the day that they could finally ascend and dual celestial with their celestial beloved.

That was also her lifelong dream and it was now completely shattered!

She muttered melancholy, "There are really no good men in the entire Celestial Realm? Where are all the righteous heroes that dare to oppose the powerful tyrants and the oppressors? Are all the men that are left in the Celestial Realm only interested in their own attainment and self-preservation?"

She continued to lament, "Where are all the protégé sisters that are before me? Have they met with the same unfortunate fates as well? Sister Stellar, Sister Lunar...where are you..."

But today, she had finally chanced upon the Lunar Heaven Fairy. Not only her but Revelation Star, Luminous Star and Melody Star too...

But they seemed to have forgotten about her.

She muttered, "It is better for Revelation Star, Luminous Star and Melody Star to forget about me. I am not fit to be their protégé mistress anymore. I have caused Jing'Er to suffer. At this moment, she may no longer be alive. I am a perpetrator...why didn't I have the courage to stand against Bai Liangong? Why didn't I have the courage to stand by her? A thousand years of sisterhood that meant nothing in the end? Because I want my revenge? I have no more friends..."

“You are wrong.” A maiden voice said gently from the shadows of the tent.

Yang Min was startled as she quickly looked around but there were no sight of everyone!

Her martial level was not weak and it was impossible for anyone to surprise her at this close proximity. However, she knew that the intruder was near her!

Before she knew it, two maidens emerged from the shadows of the tent and startling her!

She gasped, “Revelation Star and Endor Vixen Fairy! How did you...”

Indeed, it was Yixian and Youxue!

The martial level of their internal strength was so profound that they could completely stop breathing and became petrified as one with their surroundings!

She broke into cold sweat at the level of stealth that they had displayed and that they were actually watching her and eavesdropping on her without her noticing at all!

She was in disbelief that the level of attainment in their internal strength had actually surpassed her!

In fact, even at this close proximity she was not able to sense that they were actually breathing. What a superb internal breathing technique!

Needless to say, there was no doubt that their swiftness movement skills must be superb too for them to sneak into the camps of the Martial Deviant Faction and not be noticed by anyone!

Yixian said gently, “I am Shui Yixian the Celestial Fairy and she is Xiao Youxue. We are not the Revelation Star or the Endor Vixen Fairy that you have known. Of the past, we have no memories. We are here at the urging of your sister, Jing’Er to take you away.”

Yang Min was startled, “Jing’Er still lives?!”

Yixian nodded gently, “At least she is when we left her with our other

sisters.”

Youxue nodded as she said coolly, “We have been waiting for you for quite some time. We will have shown up much earlier if not for your attendants that are always with you all the time.”

Yang Min smiled bitterly, “Luckily you didn’t show up while my attendants are still around. They are the eyes and ears of Bai Liangong.”

Youxue said coolly, “Come with us.”

Yang Min said with a weak smile, “I am happy here. Why should I want to leave?”

Youxue said coldly, “You don’t even know how to lie. Up to you, I can’t be bothered. I am only here because your sister pleads with us to rescue you. I can’t bear to see her tears.”

Yang Min was startled, “Jing’Er pleads to you? She does not hate me for leaving her to her fate?”

Youxue said, “On the contrary, she believes that you have your own difficulties and understand it. She even says she is willing to die for you so that you can overcome your difficulties first. She says that you must surely have suffered much and she hopes that we can deliver you to safety...”

Yang Min burst into tears as she trembled, “Jing’Er is ever so kind...there is no way I can make up to her...”

Youxue continued casually, “And if possible, reunite with her or the Stellar Heaven Fairy.”

Yang Min gasped, “Shi Shi is also alive?!”

Yixian said gently, “The Stellar Heaven Fairy met with an unlikely fate when she first ascended to the Celestial Realm and was forced to be in the servitude of Ximen Nanqing the Domain Lord of the Dominating Aura Clan. But she has now broken free of his control and is now happily married to the Lord of the Tranquil City.”

Yang Min was truly stunned as she muttered, “Shi Shi had also met the

same cruel fate as me? She is alive? Shi Shi...Jing'Er..."

She began to tremble uncontrollably!

Youxue asked, "So you want to come with us?"

Yang Min quickly composed herself as she looked coolly at Youxue and Yixian for a while.

She was renowned for her intellect and for her ability to gauge the various situations accurately, earning exalted praises from friends and foes alike.

When she had come calm herself down, she soon asked the crux of the question. "It is easier for the two of you to come and go. But if I were to go with you then you may not get out of here alive. Moreover..."

She looked at the entrance of the large tent as she said anxiously, "... moreover, Bai Liangong will be coming anytime soon. You better leave while you can...."

Her eyes were teary as she muttered melancholy, "Please tell Jing'Er and Shi Shi that I miss them terribly and will always be their closest sister. I really appreciate that the two of you are able to come here at the risk of your lives but please, hurry and go! The longer you stay here, the greater is the risk. There are many highly attained celestials here and as the night grows darker, there will be thousands more that will be returning to camp. You better hurry and leave..."

Yixian said gently, "Please come with us. We are not leaving without you."

Youxue said coldly, "Whether we will be able to get out of here alive is another matter. If you don't leave with us, I guess we will start dragging you out of the camp very soon!"

Yang Min was startled at her reply and knew that she was dealing with someone who could hold her intellect against her.

So what could she do except to smile weakly at her?

She said quietly, "Maiden Youxue, do you agree that we at least need a

plan to move out of camp without notice? Surely, we can't fight our way through. I am really at my wits end now..."

Yixian sighed softly, "Maybe we just have to fight our way through. I don't have a plan either. Sister Youxue, do you have one?"

Youxue smiled weakly, "I am the most inexperience here. If even the Celestial Fairy and the Exalted Heaven Fairy cannot think of a plan, you are expecting me to come up with a plan?"

Yixian laughed softly, "My sweet sister. I saw your eyes flash just now. Surely with your quick wits, you must already have a plan or two. Am I right to say so?"

Youxue laughed mesmerizingly, "But my plans are difficult to execute. I think I have better not suggest it!"

Yang Min asked, "You have a plan? Let's hear it out first. It is better than no plan at all."

Youxue looked at Yixian before looking at Yang Min, "Since Bai Liangong will be coming here later, why not deploy the beauty trap as a ruse?"

Yang Min shivered as she smiled bitterly, "This really sounds like desperate measure to me. I got a better idea. How don't I pretend to capture you instead and you try the beauty trap on him?"

Youxue said with a wryly smile, "Unfortunately I do not intend to sacrifice myself for such an unworthy man."

Yang Min asked, "Then what else can we do?"

Youxue said coolly, "We still have three options more."

Yixian smiled, "What three options do we have?"

Youxue laughed mischievously, "Surrender, compromise and fight to the very end!"

Yang Min laughed softly, "Oh well...hats off to you. I just thought of another option..."

Youxue interrupted humorously, "Death?"

Yang Min clapped her hands gently, "You got it!"

Yixian laughed gently and with a soft sigh, "So this is the last merry moments already? For the last stand?"

Youxue, Yang Min and Yixian were all laughing softly at the same time. At that moment, they had come to a greater and better understanding for each other!

They had regretted and wished they had met each other much earlier and not in such a circumstance!

Yixian was suddenly melancholy and her lips moved slightly but it was noticed by Youxue immediately even though it was subtle.

Youxue asked, "Sister, you are thinking of Yi Ping?"

Yixian nodded gently, "I hope he is well. I don't want to see him in the netherworld."

She flushed slightly and smiled gently at Youxue, "Surely you are thinking of him too or else you won't know what I am thinking."

Youxue laughed softly, "Yes but so what?"

Yang Min smiled, "This Yi Ping must be an extraordinary man. Even when you are at the end of your journey, you are still thinking of him. But all men are the same. They always forget to cherish the old and hanker after the new. Moreover, he has so many consorts..."

Yixian smiled gently, "No, you are wrong. Ping'Er isn't what you think. He had saved me all too many times and until today, I didn't do much for him. I only wish him the best and have everlasting happiness!"

Youxue looked dreamily as she muttered, "He is the best. No one can replace him in my heart. When he had thought that the Goddess Celestial Alice was dead, he paid homage to her every single day without fail. I am sure he does the same for us. Even though he has many consorts now but that does not matter. You know, at first the entire wedding is a mock to restrain the Ascension Goddess but it has become

real. I wish them all true happiness, especially Lele, Yunzi and Lie Qing.”

Yixian smiled gently as she recalled fondly, “Ping’Er is too dense to take any action. I wish I can like Lie Qing and Lele...”

Yang Min was stunned at their unshakeable faith in this man called Yi Ping. From their soft expressions, it seemed that they had been through several trials with him in order to have this unshakable trust and faith in him!

She muttered, “If there is really such a good man, I will like to meet him someday. Just to know what he looks like.”

Youxue smiled, “It is a pity that you won’t have the chance anymore or else I will be worried that I have one more competitor!”

Yang Min laughed softly, “This you do not need to worry. Even if we were to survive, I am too disappointed in mortal affairs to be interested in any men. I will focus on my celestial practice.”

All of a sudden, she grew solemn as she looked at Yixian. “Revelation Star...Yixian...even though you claim you are not her but at least you are the mistress of the Heavenly Earth Sword now. Do you know that the Heavenly Earth Sword harbors a secret?”

Yixian asked nonchalantly, “Even if it does, does it matter now?”

Yang Min said quietly, “Maybe it does matter. It is the only sword that I know that contains the Universal Force. There is a reason. It goes all the way back to the first founder of the Melody Palace. The true name of the Heavenly Earth Sword is the Heavenly Tears...”

Yixian asked suddenly, “How did you know? I didn’t hear Shi Shi mentions anything like this before to me.”

Yang Min sighed softly, “Even though Shi Shi is the mistress of the Heavenly Earth Sword, she didn’t know about it. My protégé mistress sworn me to secrecy before she passed away. After her passing, the Heavenly Earth Sword was hand over to Shi Shi as my other protégé mistresses felt that she was more suitable to lead the Melody Palace.”

Yixian muttered, "Heavenly Tears..."

Yang Min continued, "The Universal Force of the Heavenly Earth Sword seals a secret celestial formation. What exactly it is, I really do not know. Even my protégé mistress did not know what it is. What we do know is that in order to unseal the Universal Force outside of the Celestial Star Formation, the possessor of the Heavenly Earth Sword must first know the Icy Heavenly Tears Intricate Formula. I have been seeking for the Icy Heavenly Tears Intricate Formula for a long time but without any results. It seems that other than the first founder of the Melody Palace who had knowledge of it, the Icy Heavenly Tears Intricate Formula is lost forever."

She sighed softly, "My protégé mistress told me there was a rumor that the first founder of the Melody Palace actually sealed it the Heavenly Earth Sword on purpose. Maybe our grand patriarch sealed it as a precaution to prevent misuse should the other celestial practitioners seize it..."

All of a sudden, she noticed that Yixian and Youxue had a queer expression on them. She asked, "What is wrong?"

Yixian looked at Yang Min with a curious look, "That is weird, isn't it? I do know the Icy Heavenly Tears Intricate Formula. Or maybe it is a similar naming skill. However, the Icy Heavenly Tears Intricate Formula that I know is a secret divine skill of the Eternal Ice Palace and is only taught to the direct protégés of the Eternal Ice Palace. I don't see any connections with the Melody Palace..."

Youxue was also startled. After pondering for a while, she asked Yixian. "Maybe there is a connection after all. How did the Eternal Ice Palace come to possess the White Phoenix? Why did the Heavenly Earth Sword decides to appear only to you? Why?"

Yixian shook her head, "I do not know but all these aren't important right now."

Yang Min smiled weakly, "That is right. How are we going to leave is the most important thing to consider right now. Unless something miraculous really happens, I really don't see how we are going to pull

through this crisis...”

All of a sudden, there was a commotion outside, startling them!

Youxue muttered, “Have we been discovered? That is a little too soon?”

Yixian stepped elegantly forward fearlessly as she called softly, “What is inevitable has to come eventually. There is nothing to fear. Death and life is predestined. Let’s go...”

But Yang Min said, “Wait. Listen at the commotions first...”

Yixian and Youxue halted their steps as they extended their hearings.

“There are attackers outside the camp now!”

“These are on our side but the ones behind are not!”

“Who can possibly injure the Martial Deviant Masters and several other epitome fighters at the same time?”

“Aren’t they the ones that have intruded earlier? I recognize these maidens...”

“That is the Celeste Wind Maiden? The Celestial Aiel Sect is here?!”

Yixian gasped, “Let’s have a look!”

Immediately, Yixian and Youxue pulled the opening of the tents and were startled to see Yi Ping, Lie Qing, Lele, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, the Chaste Lunar Maiden, Yunzi and a maiden that they did not recognized!

Yang Min was startled, “Shi Shi, Jing’Er! They are here...isn’t that the Celeste Wind Maiden?”

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were being surrounded by hundreds of celestial practitioners. That included Bai Liangong and Yong Le the Right Protector!

They had actually the tenacity to storm the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan and her allies!

Yi Ping appeared to be looking extremely pale and judging from his conditions, his injuries were not light. However from his spirited and determined look, he seemed to be surrounded by an undying fighting

spirit and the righteousness that he had always carried was none the diminished by his injuries!

When Yang Min first saw Yi Ping, she was very startled. In fact, her heart became fluttered and she was secretly gasping to herself. “Such a good man actually exists? Is he crazy? He actually dares to come here very well knowing that death is a certainty? I don’t believe...”

Youxue was teary as she muttered, “He is alive...he has actually comes for us?”

Yixian said with a kindly smile, “I am so glad that he is alive but he shouldn’t have come. It is better to sacrifice just the two of us than everyone...”

What she had said did not match the joyous expressions that were on her face!

Chapter 126: The Martial Grandmaster

The dark heavens were continuous lit by the brilliant explosive bursts of purple and white lightning that streaked thunderously with dozens of forks across the heavens and the earth; it thundered so violently every now and then that it seemed like the end times were approaching!

It did not help that the entire celestial mountains were also rumbling nonstop as powerful earthquakes occurred with no signs of stopping.

And suspended in the mid heaven was a gigantic black dome which seemed impervious to the deadly lightning strikes.

Gigantic was not the word to describe the enormous size of the black dome which covered hundreds of mountain peaks. Colossal was more fitting for it!

And this colossal floating black dome that was descending slowly at a snail pace was the mysterious Stellar Sanctuary!

Exactly thirty days or a full moon period from the time of its appearance, the forbidden gates of the Stellar Sanctuary would swing open to reveal its many celestial secrets to the celestial practitioners and rumored to locate at the most upper level was the entrance of the Immortal Realm!

The Gods' Realm!

The ultimate heaven for the celestial practitioners who had dreamed of becoming one with the heavens since the beginning of time!

But in the mountains below, hundreds of celestial practitioners from the Martial Deviant Clan and her allies were fighting with equally earthshaking fervor against a small band of intruders!

The band of intruders was led by a fine looking young man with a righteousness that was not seen in the Celestial Realm for ages and in his hands were two wondrous white gold divine swords! Following his lead were six beautiful stunning maidens and it seemed that two of the maidens were seriously injured but it did not diminish the fierce

determination or their fighting spirits as evidence from their eyes!

The fine looking young man was indeed Yi Ping and at his side were Lie Qing, Lele, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Yunzi, the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Chaste Lunar Maiden!

Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress and Jing'Er the Chaste Lunar Maiden had both sustained serious injuries but they were covered well by the rest of their group.

Yi Ping raised one sword strokes after another as he thought, "Xian'Er, Youxue...where are you..."

These two maidens were the first maidens that he had known when he had first stepped into the martial fraternity. They were not entirely good sisters as they were now. When he recalled their feuds back then, he could still remembered how heartbreaking it had caused him. At one point, he had wanted to find Youxue and to avenge against her for 'killing' Yixian!

But his thoughts soon returned to the battle; it was because thousands of glittering gold and white secret projectiles were endlessly flying with startling speed towards their group!

Meanwhile, Yunzi had whirled the White Phoenix as a shield around her, instantly deflecting hundreds of speeding projectiles aside while Lele and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were throwing dozens of secret projectiles on their own as well!

The Celeste Wind Maiden raised her sword as she created flurries of windforces, deflecting and redirecting the attacking secret projectiles from her while saying. "Everyone! Maintain the defensive formation!"

Yi Ping was swinging the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice with startling speed, deflecting and parrying dozens of lethal projectiles that were aimed at him. At the same time, dozens of celestial practitioners were attacking him with their intricate strokes and techniques!

The same scene was repeated for the rest of the maidens as well!

Yi Ping swung the Celestial Alice with a brilliant stroke from his newly improvised Horizon Swordplay as he cut down a Golden Celestial with a purple sword who had suddenly burst in front of him. This new Horizon Swordplay had borrowed the intricate strokes of the Virtuous Swordplay and the Infinity Swordplay. It was particular deadly when Yi Ping had dual wielded the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice at the same time!

Immediately there was a sudden gasp from the attackers!

That was because this Golden Celestial was not an ordinary exponent! He was also the current protégé master of the Purple Divine Clan, one of the five most powerful ally clans of the Martial Deviant Clan!

It was unbelievable that he could be overpowered so easily by Yi Ping as he stumbled awkwardly on the ground!

He had timed his attack when Yi Ping was fending off several opponents at once. He had assumed that the end of Yi Ping's sword swing was also his weakest and that the weakness of a dual wield would make it doubly hard for him to control the flexibility of his sword strokes. It was not wrong at all.

But he had assumed wrongly that Yi Ping was using his entire martial power to dual swing his sword strokes or else it would be impossible for him to lift two heavy divine long swords at once. Moreover, he had recognized several of the attackers to be the some of the finest fighters of the Celestial Realm!

But when he had attacked Yi Ping with all his martial power as he imbued his sword with deadly sword energies, he was suddenly startled by the overwhelming martial power that he had encountered by a panicky Yi Ping who had increased his martial strength. This caused him to be slightly off balance but it was a fatal to him for Yi Ping had suddenly slashed the Celestial Synonym Alice at him!

It was not only Yi Ping that was causing panic to the hundreds of attackers.

The strokes of the Celeste Wind Maiden were light yet it was equally

deadly and power as she parried the homing secret projectiles and the attacks of her opponents seemingly effortlessly! Those opponents that did not have a weapon in their hands were secretly afraid of approaching her when they saw several fighters that were on their side were cut down by a slash on their necks!

Her sword strokes were even more ruthless than the sword techniques of the Heartless Manor which was also one of the five powerful ally clans of the Martial Deviant Clan!

A seriously wounded celestial practitioner who was part of the pursuers that were hunting Yi Ping's group earlier but he had managed to escape back here was shouting with all his remaining strength, "That white hair maiden is the Celeste Wind Maiden! One of the newly seven most powerful fighters of the Celestial Realm!"

The weaker fighters that were on their side began to hesitate and were secretly alarmed as they started to lose their initial fighting will!

It was because the Celeste Wind Maiden was not only one of the newly seven most powerful fighters, she was also the Celestial Priestess of the Celestial Aiel Sect!

If she was here then there was a possibility that the Celestial Aiel Sect may be in the vicinity too and that this small group was just the vanguard to test their deployments and strength!

Yong Le the Right Protector of the Martial Deviant Clan rallied the fighters, "Don't panic. They are few and we are many. It is just a matter of time before they are too weak to fight!"

And with that he had punched several explosive martial forces towards the Celeste Wind Maiden who evaded his attacks with great agility as she said coldly, "You are also one of the seven top fighters. I have been waiting to fight you for a long time."

Yong Le smirked coldly as he deflected her incoming strokes with the martial force of his fingers, "You are in the top fighters ranking simply because you are lucky enough to have a divine sword to aid you. Today, I will crush you with my Soul Chaining Aerial Fingers and seize your divine

sword as my own...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden took a step back as she continued to evade and counter-attacking against several fighters at the same time while saying, “Fat hope! If you really as powerful as you say you are, why don’t you ask your lackeys to back off and have an honorable duel with me instead of fighting me from a distant?!”

Yong Le laughed coldly, “That will depends if you are able to come into close melee with me in the first place. But be warned that when you do, you will breathe your last!”

At the same time, Lele had just dissipated several incoming sword energies from her attackers with her Divine Echo Divine Sword as she sent several powerful flurries of shockwaves around her and her group!

The attackers were astonished that such a divine sword that could dissipate sword energies could possibly exist!

This caused the greed and the determinations of the attackers to be strengthened as they all wanted to be the first to seize her sword!

For the sword energies practitioner, a divine sword that could dissipate sword energies was their nemesis. But if they could have such a divine sword in their hands, then it would surely further their sword energies skill as well as giving them a huge advantage over their opponents!

They simply could not understand how an unnamed celestial fighter like Lele would possibly have a divine sword in her hands. Except for her expert movements and dodges, she was also wielding a clumsy long scythe that was unsuitable for melee. There was no way she could have beaten the best celestial fighters or retain a divine sword with her current martial level!

Lele seemed to know what they were thinking, “Know who I am from now on. I am the Joyful Goddess and I will strike fears in your hearts.”

The true reason why Lele’s attacks looked non-lethal was because she was kinder and did not have the heart to kill anyone. Only when she was desperate, she will resort to dirty fighting and hardened her heart to use

the lethal sword techniques of the Celestial Palace.

But luckily, the Stellar Heaven Fairy was beside her to lend her a helping hand as she brandished the Fire Emblem Divine Sword with her Melody Swordplay, causing pink strokes to twinkle around her with startling speed and dazzling her opponents!

Shi Shi the Stellar Heaven Fairy was startled at how seemingly easy the Fire Emblem was able to channel her internal strength into offensive martial power. This was something that she had not experienced before when she was the mistress of the Heavenly Earth Sword.

She thought, “Or is it because I am now an ancient celestial practitioner or is it because the nature of this divine sword allows it to amplify the martial power of the internal art practitioner?”

Her thoughts quickly returned to the battle as they were not only trying to fight for their lives but they were also keeping a watchful eye on Lie Qing and the Chaste Lunar Maiden in the middle of their formation!

Lie Qing swung her Perpetual Darkness around her rapidly as she parried the remaining few secret projectiles that Yi Ping, the Stellar Heaven Fairy, Lele and the Celeste Wind Maiden had missed while saying assuring to the Chaste Lunar Maiden, “Don’t worry. I can still fight. Just stay close behind me.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was in awe of this group as she thought, “Is she really my protégé, Luminous Star? Her martial skills are so much stronger than I now. And metallic weapons are so rare in the Celestial Realm and yet all of them have a divine sword in their hands. If I never seen with my own eyes, I will never have believed!”

While Yi Ping and his group did not have any numerical advantage but they had organized themselves into a tight defensive formation and were looking out for one another.

As for the attacking celestial practitioners who numbered in the hundreds, as they hailed from different clans and sects they were unable to co-ordinate their attacks and everyone that their own agenda.

What turned out to be a numerical advantage had all of a sudden turned into pandemonium as the attacking celestial practitioners were themselves hit by the secret projectiles from their own side as Yi Ping's group was too small while their own group was too big!

This was actually the plan of Yi Ping's group before they had arrived!

It was first proposed by the Stellar Heaven Fairy who asked when they had beaten off the hostile attackers earlier, "We can follow them to their camps. Then we can hope to reach Yixian and Youxue in a nick of time. However, that will be reckless and suicidal. But if we move in fast enough in a tightly held formation, we may have a chance. What do you think?"

Yi Ping had said quietly, "I guess we have to try. No matter what, we cannot leave them there alone."

Lie Qing nodded weakly as she grasped his arm, "I am going too. Don't ever think of leaving here alone!"

Lele laughed softly, "We have beaten them off but we didn't introduce ourselves properly. I really think we should pay them another visit..."

Her soft laughter was suddenly interrupted by a tearful Jing'Er the Chaste Lunar Maiden who had walked towards the the Stellar Heaven Fairy and hugging her emotionally, "Shi Shi? It is really you? I can't believe it, really! I miss you so much..."

Shi Shi was equally emotional, "Jing'Er, I have never expected to see you again. There was a time when I want to take my own life to join Yang Min and you..."

Jing'Er said excitedly, "Sister Min'Er is still alive too. I have feared the worst for the two of you and have nightmares all this while. But no longer now because my two closest sisters are still with me!"

Shi Shi gasped, "Yang Min is still alive? Where is she now? I really miss her so much too..."

Jing'Er sighed softly, "Actually I only know today that she is still alive and is now with the Martial Deviant Clan..."

At this moment, Yi Ping was coughing weakly.

Jing'Er was suddenly looking shyly at Yi Ping and was flushing. Earlier when Yi Ping had first appeared and charged into the battle, she had already taken notice of him; he was like a dashing hero in white with his spirited and tender eyes!

She smiled shyly at Yi Ping as she teased Shi Shi, "Sister, who is he? I see that he is with you. Is that my brother-in-law?"

Shi Shi smiled weakly when she saw the way Jing'Er was looking at Yi Ping, "Oh well. Let Ping'Er introduce himself to you then."

Yi Ping immediately bowed respectfully with his hands to introduce himself, "I am Yi Ping. Yi is my family name while Ping is my namesake."

Jing'Er gasped as she looked at Lele, Yunzi and Lie Qing as she recalled that they were looking for a Ping'Er, "He is your man?"

Lele said coldly, "It is good that you know. So you have better keep away from him!"

At the same time, she had also noticed the Celeste Wind Maiden and was subtly warning her to keep away from Yi Ping at the same time!

The Celeste Wind Maiden scoffed quietly in respond as she looked coldly at her.

Jing'Er continued to look at Yi Ping shyly, "Do you have any celestial name? I am the Chaste Lunar Maiden now. You can call me Jing'Er if you want..."

Yi Ping answered, "Maiden Jing'Er, I don't have any celestial name..."

Shi Shi interrupted with a soft laughter, "But everyone calls you the Lord of the Tranquil City now after you have won a duel with the Immortal Saint of Swords there."

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "That is because they didn't know my name."

Jing'Er said shyly, "That is so true. I didn't know your name until today as well. But I have heard of your exploits. Do you know that you are now so famous in the Celestial Realm?"

Yi Ping smiled awkwardly, “Is it? I didn’t know. It is only a fluke. He has actually stayed his hand. I not sure if I can live if he uses his Inverting Eternal Occurrence.”

Lele cut in coldly, “We don’t have much time left and yet the two of you can still chat happily as though we have plenty of time.”

She pointed to the Celeste Wind Maiden, “Who is she? She is obviously a dark celestial practitioner. She looks like a delicate beauty. Where do you pick her up from, Ping’Er?”

This time the Celeste Wind Maiden was growling as she remarked coldly, “And just who are you? Do you know who I am? I am the Celeste Wind Maiden, one of the newly top seven fighters of the Celestial Realm and also the Celestial Priestess of the Celestial Aiel Sect. Are you afraid now?”

Lele asked coldly, “Who? I have never even heard of you!”

That was the truth!

Lie Qing was cuddling close to Yi Ping and she was laughing softly, “Stop chatting or arguing first. We should be on the move first and if there are any small talks, we can do it along the way. Our enemies won’t be expecting that we will be right behind them.”

Lele looked at the Celeste Wind Maiden as she said coldly, “Don’t expect me to give you a helping hand. I won’t be free later.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was exasperated as she hummed coldly, “That is what I should say to you...”

Lele interrupted with a cold smile, “Don’t copy me!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked coldly, “Who is copying who?”

Yunzi said with a faint smile, “Can’t we all get along?”

Yi Ping tried to intervene by saying, “We should hurry first.”

But he looked at Lie Qing and Jing’Er anxiously, “But I think the two of you should stay...”

He looked at the Stellar Heaven Fairy, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Yunzi and Lele, "All of you should stay. It is far too dangerous. I will go alone."

Lie Qing protested immediately, "I won't be a liability!"

Jing'Er said weakly, "I am not staying either..."

Lele gasped softly, "Ping'Er, I won't let you go alone."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quickly, "Surely you are not thinking of leaving us and go alone..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden said gently, "I will go with you. Isn't that the reason why I am here with you? Don't forget that you still have the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill from the Celestial Mistress. I suggest that you take it now for the effects of the divine pill will need some time to take effect. It will be too late if you consume it during a fight or do you think your opponent will allow you to do so?"

Jing'Er was startled as she gasped in her heart, "The Celestial Mistress will actually give him the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill!? That is impossible. Do you know how precious it is to her and she is saving it only as a last resort? If the miraculous properties of that divine pill of hers are made known, it will surely cause chaos in the Celestial Realm..."

Yi Ping muttered, "All of you..."

Yunzi smiled gently as she said quietly, "I don't think anyone wants to stay behind. Even if Ping'Er refuses to let us go with him, we will insist."

Yi Ping looked quietly at Yunzi as he gave a soft sigh.

He knew that he could not stop Yunzi and she was not the type that could be scared off by any opponents or by any superior odds. The first time that he had met her was at the Honor Manor and she had actually the tenacity to kill Gongsun Bai the Grandmaster of the Honor Manor in front of the entire assembly!

Moreover, Yunzi was truly a top exponent who had secretly concealed her true skills. She had hidden the fact that she was also the protégé mistress of the Sacred Divine Clan. She had inherited several epitome

martial skills from many schools and sects; the Virtuous Palace, the Invincible Divine Clan and the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan.

Who would believe that she was now the protégé mistress of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan and she was only in the Celestial Realm for only less than a year?

Because of the events of the Astronomic Stellar Formation, Yi Ping's group was forced to undergo the tribulations that were normally reserved for Ancient Celestials. When they survived, it had the effect of forcefully elevating their state of divinity to a full Golden Celestial!

As for those who were already Golden Celestials like the Stellar Heaven Fairy, the Ascension Goddess and Shen Xingyue, their state of divinities were further elevated to the first level of an Ancient Celestial!

There were seven stages of celestial divinities that were required for the celestial practitioners to overcome before they could ascend as a Golden Celestial; Genesis, Enlighten, Emotion, Transverse, Seventh Sense, Crisis and Ascend.

When a celestial practitioner became a golden celestial practitioner, there were seven Divine Wraths that they had to overcome before they could become an ancient celestial practitioner. Previously none of the golden celestial practitioners knew about it as there were no precedents and each time they had overcome their Divine Wrath, there was actually little improvements or none at all to their martial strength.

The Divine Wrath would increase in its furies each time it was overcome by the celestial practitioner. This forced many of the celestial practitioners to constantly improve the level of their martial skills either by seeking new breakthroughs in their martial arts, gaining powerful new martial arts, gaining inspirations through new martial arts or by acquainting rare celestial items to aid them!

A powerful divine sword would always be useful in overcoming the Divine Wrath!

And right now, Yi Ping's group was inviting envy looks over their divine swords!

Without storming the headquarters of the Holy Ascension Sect and without going to the Stellar Sanctuary, here was an excellent opportunity for them to seize the divine swords!

The hundreds of celestial practitioners were all experienced and cunning fighters. The moment they knew that Yi Ping's group was more difficult than they had initial thought, they began to deploy a hit and run tactic to exhaust them!

Victory was a certainty and was just a matter of time for Yi Ping's group was already showing signs of weariness as more and more powerful fighters started to appear and enter the battle!

And one of the more powerful fighters was none other than Bai Liangong, the Martial Grandmaster of the Martial Deviant Clan as he made a dramatic entry as he raised his silver sword at Yi Ping!

In a blink of an eye, Yi Ping and Bai Liangong had exchanged more than a dozen earthshaking sword strokes before Bai Liangong disengaged gracefully backward with a furious stare at Yi Ping and the rest of the beautiful maidens!

Yi Ping was startled at the intricate sword strokes of Bai Liangong and his right arm was trembling slightly from the short exchange!

He quickly exercised the Absolute Equilibrium Force subtly as he tried to regain the use of his arm.

Bai Liangong was also secretly startled that Yi Ping was able to block his Macross Technique, a deadly sword technique that consisted of eighteen intricate sword strokes. The sixth, twelfth and the eighteenth stroke of the Macross Technique was especially powerful. It was a cumulative of the first five strokes.

Even for his martial attainment, he could only manage till the third level of the Macross Technique. If he could reach the forth level of the Macross Technique then he would be able to display twenty-four intricate sword strokes with a single vital breathe!

It was very difficult to reach the forth level of the Macross Technique

but the third level of the Macross Technique was still powerful enough to rank him as one of the super swordsmen in the Celestial Realm. What he was lacking right now was a divine sword to match his powerful sword technique!

But a divine sword was simply too hard to obtain.

He was literally burning with envy at the sight of so many divine swords. He simply could not wait to take possession of all the divine swords for himself!

But he was also curious at the intricate sword movements of his opponent that were so flux and it was so unlike any that he had seen so he asked coldly, "What is the name of your sword strokes?"

Yi Ping answered nonchalantly, "The Perfect Swordplay if you want a name for it."

The Perfect Swordplay was actually not a sword technique but a continuous flux of sword movements that could block and attack at the same time!

When the hundreds of fighters on the side of the Martial Deviant Clan saw the Martial Grandmaster, they immediately ceased their attacks for they did not dare to make any false move without his commands!

They were afraid that the Martial Grandmaster may think that they were trying to seize the divine swords for themselves even though that was really their intentions to do so!

Bai Liangong stared at Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens as he appraised them quietly. He had recognized some of the intruders but there were three newcomers this time.

The Celeste Wind Maiden was also appraising the Martial Grandmaster quietly to herself, "So that is the Martial Grandmaster? What is that sword technique that he has used earlier? No wonder, he is able to dominate a third of the Celestial Realm; that is just his sword skill and he has not use his Martial Deviant Force yet..."

Even Lie Qing was alarmed as she stole a glance at Lele.

Lele had suddenly grown eerily quiet.

It was the first time that Lie Qing had seen Lele with such a solemn expression. This Martial Grandmaster was very strong and they had known it when they had encountered him for the first time. Without Yixian around, they really had no confident and moreover, they were now being surrounded by hundreds of hostile fighters!

Yi Ping was thinking to himself, “He is the Martial Grandmaster? The attacks have suddenly stopped and they seem to be holding him in high regards...”

Bai Liangong was growling as he stared at them unhurriedly as thunderous lightning strikes flashed nonstop behind him.

He needed not have to for they were like preys that were already trapped in his net. He was just wondering what caused them to charge so foolishly into his arms.

And he was also wondering what had happened to the tens of super fighters that he had sent out.

He had sent more than a hundred top exponents from the various clans including his four Martial Deviant Masters to track the intruders down. The last report that he had received from his scouts were that the intruders were now hopelessly lost in the mountains and it would not be long before they would be cornered.

But to his utter disbelief, only a dozen of the top exponents that he had sent had made their way back without completing their mission and they were being chased by a small group all the way back here!

Along the way, there were at least six outposts that consisted of at least three hundred fighters and yet no one was able to stop such a small group?!

He asked coldly, “Where are the four Martial Deviant Masters?”

Priest Phantom from the Heartless Manor and who was also part of the failed expedition coughed weakly as he pointed weakly at the daring intruders, “They had all perished!”

Bai Liangong was furious as he clenched his fists and there was a burst of martial force exploding from around him as he shouted at the daring intruders, "Just who are you? So that I can at least remember who you are before I send you to the netherworld!"

His martial shout was terrifying and at this range, it was strong enough to cause the Chaste Lunar Maiden to cough out blood!

Yi Ping imbued the Celestial Antonym Alice with his martial power as he resisted the martial shockwave as he thought, "His internal strength are so profound. He is as strong as the Mad Conqueror and the Immortal Saint of Swords...I haven't recovered my full martial strength yet...is it possible for me to defeat him?"

Yi Ping looked at Bai Liangong and the hundreds of celestial fighters that were surrounding their small group now.

Even though they were all staring fiercely at their group, Yi Ping did not show any fear. Instead, he replied coldly. "I am Yi Ping. Who are you?"

Immediately, the crowd was filled with scorn as they laughed coldly.

Bai Liangong was half amused as he roared thunderously, "Such brave words! You do not know me? Yet you have come to my camp!"

Yi Ping asked weakly, "So you are really the Martial Grandmaster? Just as I have thought."

Bai Liangong thundered, "Who else do you think I am? You have the guts to come here but yet you do not know who I am!"

Yong Le the Right Protector said coldly, "Grandmaster, let us finish him off. He looks like he is half-dead anyway."

Immediately, dozens of celestial fighters began to move forward at the same time as they brandished their weapons and fists!

Bai Liangong interrupted coldly, "Hold first!"

At the same time, Lele, Yunzi, the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Stellar Heaven Fairy had also moved forward while maintaining a protective circle around the injured Lie Qing and the Chaste Lunar Maiden!

But Yi Ping raised the two Celestial Alice as he said weakly, "Wait!"

Bai Liangong smiled coldly as he admired Yi Ping's divine swords, "Excellent divine swords! Soon it will be mine. You can wield two divine swords?"

Yi Ping answered coldly, "I don't have to answer you. What have you done with Yixian and Youxue?! Return them to me!"

His tone was so cold that many of the celestial fighters, including those that were not beaten up or injured were all unconsciously taking small steps backward!

Bai Liangong knitted his eyebrows, "Yixian, Youxue? I have killed and bedded plenty of nameless maidens. I can't remember."

All of a sudden, three heavenly maidens leapt with startling speed from the back and landed gracefully beside Yi Ping!

The hundreds of fighters presented were already enthralled by the loveliness of these maidens who were intruding. The sight of three more peerless beauties were enough to overwhelm their years of emotionless celestial practice and they were even feeling a little pitiful for their sorry fates later!

Indeed, the three heavenly maidens were Yixian, Youxue and the Yang Min!

Yi Ping immediately gasped out, "Xian'Er, Youxue! You are well?"

Lie Qing, Lele and Yunzi had also cried out their names!

At the same time, Shi Shi and Jing'Er called out excitedly, "Yang Min!"

Yang Min muttered as she tried hard to suppress her tears, "Shi Shi, Jing'Er...you are all here..."

Bai Liangong shouted angrily, "Yang Min, why are you with them? You dare to betray the Martial Deviant Clan?"

Yong Le was also saying, "Yang Min, what do you think you are doing? Come over here immediately and ask for forgiveness."

But Yang Min refused to move as she stared coldly at Yong Le and Bai Liangong!

Youxue interrupted by flipping her long sleeves as she turned to say coldly to Bai Liangong, "I have heard that someone says he can't remember the many nameless maidens that he had victimized. I will make sure you remember me."

Yi Ping shivered when he had caught sight of the cold beaming look in Youxue's eyes. He had suddenly remembered that she had the same exact look when he had first met her.

That was a telling sign that she was about to turn murderous!

He knew that Youxue had also mastered the Absolute Spirits Intricate Formula. Even though the Absolute Spirits was a most intricate formula that could strengthen the will of the practitioner but it could also lead to phenomenon deviation if it was utilized for the wrong purpose.

Yi Ping quickly called out to her, "Xue'Er, step aside first."

Yixian was also startled when she saw the cold beaming look that she had not seen for a long time. That cold forbidding look of hers was like a cat that had its sight upon a prey and nothing else matters!

Yi Ping said continued to say, "We are here on a peace mission. The Holy Ascension Sect has a message for you. If the Martial Deviant Clan will not ascend the stairs of heavens of the Unmoving Mountains then the Holy Ascension Sect will not stop you from going to the Stellar Sanctuary. Isn't that what you want in the first place?"

Immediately, there were several mutterings among the crowd!

It was a tempting offer!

If they could get into the Stellar Sanctuary without a confrontation with the Holy Ascension Sect and her allies, then it would be the best option for them!

But the crowd also knew that the divine swords of this small group were now almost in the hands of the powerful Martial Deviant Clan and the

Martial Grandmaster would not give up any opportunity to lay his hands on it.

The fierce confrontations with the Celestial Aiel Sect had taken a toll on their mental strength and they were now worried that they may be attacked by the Holy Ascension Sect if there was no sight of a decisive victory anytime soon. The Celestial Aiel Sect and her allies were proving to be much harder to defeat than they had expected. Moreover, they had already lost some of their best fighters when they went in pursue after Yi Ping's group!

Bai Liangong looked coldly at Yang Min and then at Yi Ping, "Fine but you have to surrender all your divine swords as a token of sincerity and you have to return Yang Min to me. I am also willing to make an armistice with the Celestial Aiel Sect."

He paused briefly before saying, "Or else I can assure you that you won't leave here alive."

"No, you don't. You can only choose the first option and then they have to come with me." A mesmerizing gentle voice was heard from the back.

Yi Ping, Bai Liangong and everyone were both equally startled. It was because they had never of this feminine voice before!

A heavenly maiden in white with a golden jadeite armor adorned over her was standing quietly next to a large rock at the back. Even though she was still far behind but her golden eyes were extremely piercing and her eyes had a ring of green around it!

Ancient Celestial? That was the first thought that had come into the minds of everyone when they had seen her eyes!

What was stunning about her was her long golden hair that was fluttering along with the strong winds.

But what was astonishing was that with that armor of hers and under the watchful eyes of so many powerful experts here, none of them knew that she was standing there in plain view!

How long had she been standing there?

What did she want?

And from the look of her golden jadeite armor, it looked like a rare celestial treasure that they had never seen before!

Yi Ping and Bai Liangong had exercised their internal strength at the same time to convey their words to her, “Who are you?”

Chapter 127: The Divine Constellation Sword

Bai Liangong turned to look at Yi Ping with a surprise look, “You don’t know her?”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “I have never even seen her before.”

Bai Liangong smirked coldly, “But she seems to be here to help you...”

The mysterious golden hair maiden with the golden jadeite armor interrupted nonchalantly, “I am not here to help him either. On the contrary, if he fails to reply me satisfactory, I will definitely kill him.”

Lele smirked coldly, “I am afraid that it is easier said than done!”

Bai Liangong signaled with his hands as he said to Priest Xun who was the protégé leader of the Brilliant Access Clan, “Priest Xun, will you bring this insolent maiden to me?”

Priest Xun smiled, “It will be my pleasure of course. Remember my share when you get your hands on these divine swords.”

Bai Liangong smiled, “Naturally. There are more than enough for the six majors clans of the Martial Faction.”

Priest Xun laughed heartily as he said, “Good! I will get her heart for you then!”

Immediately Priest Xun gave a martial shout as he charged towards the mysterious golden hair maiden with seven other fighters of the Brilliant Access Clan, “Initiate the Eight Trigram Formless Formation!”

The crowd immediately gasped.

It was because the Brilliant Access Clan was also one of the five major clans that were allied with the Martial Deviant Clan and their Eight Trigram Formless Formation was renowned throughout the Celestial Realm. Once an opponent was trapped in the formation, there was no escape!

The Celeste Wind Maiden gasped silently, “They are going to attack her with the Eight Trigram Formless Formation. In this weather and unsteady ground, it will be extremely difficult for her to maneuver. If she is smart enough, she should turn back and flee first. But with that armor of hers, it is difficult...”

Yi Ping found himself calling out, “Maiden, be careful!”

Lele muttered softly, “You don’t even know she is. What if she is here to take your life?”

Yi Ping was startled but his attention quickly returned to the golden hair maiden who had suddenly dashed forward with startling speed to confront Priest Xun and his protégé brothers!

There were eight brilliant flashes of blinding light as Priest Xun and his protégé brothers quickly organized themselves into an intricate fighting formation as they took aim at the golden hair maiden one after another.

The golden hair heavenly maiden reacted by charging towards Priest Xun.

Only when she had charged and her long hair lifted with the winds did everyone noticed that she had a long sword behind her. This long sword was very unusual. It was slightly curved and a very long sword. Also the scabbard was adorned with many precious stones giving it a glittering glow in the darkness!

Immediately, there were five others who moved to intercept her with their sword strokes and killing techniques as brilliant lights exploded around her!

Priest Xun laughed coldly, “Foolish!”

But the golden hair heavenly maiden continued her charge as she raised her fingers forward and did not seem to make any attempt to draw her sword to fend off the attacks!

Much to the astonishment of the attackers, every single one of their attacks had missed her narrowly and it was only then did they notice that the golden hair maiden was fighting with her eyes closed; that was why

she was not affected by the dancing lights of their Brilliant Access Swordplay!

In a blink of an eye, she had appeared next to Priest Xun!

Priest Xun was startled but he did not panic. After all, she was still trapped in their formidable Eight Trigram Formless Formation and in another blink of an eye she would be surrounded by his protégé brothers who were all expert fighters who had defeated countless opponents.

So he raised his long sword to display the Bamboo Piercing Stance, a sword stroke that attacked forward but could waver into multiple sword thrusts at the same time as he thought, “If she don’t back off now, she will be killed...”

At the same time, two others of his protégé brothers had also appeared from the side and were also displaying the Bamboo Piercing Stances!

And right behind her were five others who were also displaying the Bamboo Piercing Stance with startling speed!

Yi Ping cried out, “Be careful!”

He was about to dash forward when Yong Le had suddenly intercepted him with several powerful explosive bursts of martial force from his fingers!

Yi Ping had raised both Celestial Alice in a nick of time to deflect the explosive attacks but he was still being hurled backward!

Just as Yong Le was about to press forward with his attacks as he raised both fingers to fire at Yi Ping, Yixian had intercepted his attacks and dissipating offensive the martial energies with a few flicker of her fingers!

Yixian said quietly, “So the Martial Deviant Clan has decided to fight the Holy Ascension Sect?”

Yong Le was startled as he thought, “Who is she? She can actually counter my Soul Chaining Aerial Fingers with her fingers?”

But he was smiling heartily, “I have never seen such a graceful finger stance in my life or anyone as beautiful as you. What is your name...”

He was suddenly interrupted by a shocking sight...

The golden hair heavenly maiden had charged straight into Priest Xun and shattered his precious sword into several pieces with her fingers!

At the same time she had suddenly turned around as she lifted her long sleeves and shattered the other seven precious swords at the same time too!

In a blink of an eye, she had also gathered the broken blades as she scattered them in all directions, fatally wounding Priest Xun and his seven protégé brothers who had all collapsed painfully on the ground!

Priest Xun and the rest of his protégé brothers were so shocked and overwhelmed by her martial display that they were trembling nonstop!

Yi Ping, Bai Liangong, Yong Le and all the others were also stunned at her martial display!

The golden hair heavenly maiden said coldly, "Is that all you can do?"

Even the Celeste Wind Maiden had turned pale!

Yang Min said quietly, "The precious swords of the Brilliant Access Clan are all made of Silver Celestium and are nearly indestructible. It is impossible to shatter these precious swords with internal strength alone."

Yunzi looked at the white glove of the golden hair maiden and wondered, "It has to do with her gloves. The effort to shatter even a normal sword requires plenty of focus and a great deal of internal strength from the practitioner. And she can shatter eight precious swords at the same time with her internal strength? This is an impossible feat to accomplish for anyone without aid. Moreover, internal strength is crucial in any fight and most practitioners won't expend their precious internal strength in a reckless manner.

Internal strength not only maintained the focus of a martial practitioner, it also served to protect against internal injuries and attacks!

Martial power practitioners like Yi Ping and Bai Liangong required plenty of internal strength to convert their martial power to execute their

martial techniques.

If the opponents were suffering from internal injuries, their movements would be slower and their breathing would be hard. That was why Bai Liangong did not think Yi Ping as a threat even if he had a divine sword in his hands!

But this golden hair maiden was still able to speak so casually after executing such severe stress on her internal strength, all the celestial practitioners were stunned!

Now they were muttering among themselves, “Who is she?”

Bai Liangong was a little more respectful this time as he asked, “I am Bai Liangong, the Martial Grandmaster of the Celestial Realm. What is your clan of origin? How can I address you?”

The golden hair heavenly maiden hummed coldly and said hypnotically from afar, “You don’t have to know who I am. I only want him. Is that fine with you, yes or no?”

This must be the most outrageous request ever made and the crowd was secretly mocking her for they knew that Bai Liangong would never agree to something like this!

Yi Ping quickly said, “Maiden, leave while you can. They are only interested in us. This has nothing to do with you.”

The golden hair heavenly maiden hummed coldly as she filled the vicinity with her soft gently voice via the Thousands Mile Resonate Skill, “Stop feigning. You know who I am and I know who you are. You may have removed your black armor garb and you seem a little different now but even if you have turned to ashes, I will still be able to recognize you. So you have finally decided to be done with her?”

Yi Ping was startled and he almost choked when he coughed, “Huh? I really do not know you...”

But the golden hair heavenly maiden seemed to be ignoring Yi Ping as she asked Bai Liangong coldly, “This is your last chance. Are you going to make way to me or not?”

Bai Liangong replied calmly, "I will like to but what is it in for me? If I let them off like this, how can I expect to be answerable to the numerous dead and wounded?"

Yong Le was startled as he looked at Bai Liangong as he thought, "He is willing to negotiate with a stranger? Actually they are all within our grasp now and it won't be long before we subdue them..."

The golden hair heavenly maiden asked coldly, "So you want something to salvage your pride."

All of a sudden, she unsheathed her slightly curved long sword with a brilliant flash of divine light!

There was a faint glowing light around her curve long sword and everyone could feel the cold piercing sword energies aura that was radiating from the sword!

At the instant that she had drawn her long, many of the celestial practitioners felt a piercing thrust in their hearts!

There was no doubt that this was a divine sword and a really precious divine sword!

The golden hair heavenly maiden held the tip of the long sword and started to bend it more than sixty degrees!

All of a sudden when she had released her hold on the tip, the blade reverted to the middle again. It was as though it had never been bended before!

Bai Liangong gasped, "Excellent sword! This is a very precious divine sword..."

The golden hair heavenly maiden smiled coldly as she sheathed the divine sword back into the scabbard before thrusting the curved long sword into the ground, "And this is yours if you are willing to let them go."

He was indeed tempted!

If he could take away this divine sword without a single fight then it

would be a good thing as he was still trying to gauge her true martial level.

However, he was a little suspicious that she could be giving her divine sword away in such a casual manner as though it meant nothing. A divine sword was priceless especially in a metal rare realm like the Celestial Realm!

Bai Liangong seemed to consider for a while as he looked at Yang Min but he quickly regained his composure to say, "You can take them away but what is the name of this divine sword?"

The golden hair heavenly maiden smiled, "The Divine Constellation."

Bai Liangong muttered, "The Divine Constellation?"

The golden hair heavenly maiden said nonchalantly, "Under the inner twenty-eight constellations and the outer twelve constellations, there is the Divine Constellation."

Bai Liangong and the rest of the celestial practitioners were smiling bitterly. She seemed to be saying that this divine sword of hers was the most powerful divine sword in the heavens!

The golden hair heavenly maiden turned to look at Yi Ping before saying coldly, "What are you waiting for? Come with me."

Yi Ping bowed with his hands, "Thank you for coming to our aid..."

Lele immediately said, "We don't have to listen to her. That is just between the two of them and none of our business."

The golden hair heavenly maiden smiled coldly, "That is the true but what other choices do you have now?"

Yunzi smiled weakly, "That seems to be our best choice now."

Bai Liangong said aloud, "Hold!"

The golden hair heavenly lifted her eyes towards Bai Liangong, "You are regretting?"

Bai Liangong said quietly, "I have given my word and I will keep it. But

first...”

He turned towards Yang Min to say, “Yang Min, I will always welcome you back. I won’t punish you. If you come back, we can iron things out together...”

But Yang Min pretended not to hear him and she had already walked towards the golden hair heavenly maiden.

Lie Qing gave Yi Ping a gentle tug, “Let’s us go. I don’t want to stay here. This place stinks!”

Yi Ping nodded as he looked at all the other maidens, “Yes, let’s us go.”

Bai Liangong looked at Yi Ping before he said coldly, “Don’t forget what the Holy Ascension Sect has promised us.”

Yi Ping replied, “I won’t.”

Bai Liangong smiled coldly, “Good. See you in the Stellar Sanctuary then. Next time we met, I won’t be so lenient on you.”

Yi Ping kept quiet as he took a glance at the Divine Constellation Sword that was thrust into the ground. The instant the golden hair heavenly maiden had unsheathed this divine sword, he knew that it was as powerful as the Celestial Alice.

Youxue looked at Bai Liangong coldly, “That is what I am supposed to say to you.”

Bai Liangong smiled coldly at this mesmerizing beauty with cold demeanor but he was only paying scant attention to her. It was because he was still secretly looking at Yang Min as he thought heartbreakingly, “Of all people, why did you betray me? I love you so much. I want to keep you by my side forever...”

He stood on the same spot for some time even after Yi Ping, Yang Min, the golden hair heavenly maiden and the rest of the intruders had disappeared into the darkness.

Finally Yong Le the Right Martial Protector could not keep quiet anymore as he asked, “Grandmaster, why do you let them go like this?”

They are already within our grasp. It is just a matter of time before we can seize their divine swords. As for that golden hair maiden, she is just one and we are many. She won't be able to withstand our attacks. Do we pursue them?"

Bai Liangong laughed aloud and a burst of martial force exploded around him. Everyone could see with their very eyes how formidable his Martial Deviant Force was!

When he had stopped laughing, he turned to stare coldly at the hundreds of celestial practitioner and pointing at the badly shaken Priest Xun at the same time, "Do you really think that we can stop her without heavy casualties? If she can break the Eight Trigram Formless Formation with her eyes closed, she isn't just any ordinary celestial practitioner. Do you think that this Yi Ping and his group will stand idle while we fight that nameless maiden?"

The hundreds of celestial practitioners were quiet but their eyes were full of defiance; it was because they wanted to lay their hands on their divine swords and to avenge their dead!

The five major celestial clans that were allied with the Martial Deviant Clan, the Purple Divine Clan, the Giga Sword Sect, the Brilliant Access Clan, the Heartless Manor and the Divine Shadow had all lost many capable leaders and fighters. Therefore they were not willing to let Yi Ping and his group left just like this without exacting vengeance!

Even if that meant sacrificing more of their fighters, they were also willing!

Bai Liangong seemed to know what they were thinking as he said coldly, "There is always a time to seek vendetta. What most important now is to regroup and organize our forces first."

A strongly build man stepped forward to say, "The Giga Sword Sect is not afraid of sacrifices. Let me lead my fighters to seize their divine swords and avenge our dead. Just one word from you, we will take action!"

This strongly build man was none other than Shi Tianwang, the protégé master of the Giga Sword Sect!

Priest Xun muttered weakly as he continued to tremble, “My friend, you have better listened to the Martial Grandmaster. You are not near her earlier or you won’t know how terrifying she is. In all my years, I have never been so terrified before...”

It was not only him; the rest of his protégé brothers were still trembling with fright even now!

Shi Tianwang hummed coldly, “I don’t believe.”

Bai Liangong interrupted coldly, “You have better believe. Even though we have hundreds of fighters here and thousands more outside the camp but I can tell you that our numbers do not matter and I don’t want to risk having any internal injury. We have to remember that the Stellar Sanctuary is our main goal.”

Internal injuries were unlike external injuries and often took months to years to recover!

Shi Tianwang was bewildered, “Our numbers do not matter? Surely it matters!”

Bai Liangong added as he looked at the abandoned divine sword that was left behind, “Maybe it does matter but we may not get to see it. Earlier when she is fighting with Priest Xun, she is already subtly warning us that all she has to do is to go after the leaders of our group. However, it seems that I have a very good deal here...”

Chapter 128: The Celestial Fairy vs. the Goddess Isa

The golden hair heavenly maiden walked rapidly through the difficult winding mountains and even when a powerful earthquake sent an avalanche of rocks to fall down the mountain paths, she did not slow down her pace!

Yi Ping and his group were forced to follow her pace.

Lele was the first to break the silence, "Ping'Er, can you tell me why you are with her? Aren't you supposed to find the camps of the Celestial Aiel Sect? And who injure you? I can see that Sister Shi Shi has a divine sword now. How did she get it? And that Heavens Encompassing Stroke, how did you learn it?"

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was also smiling weakly. It was because Lele did not ask her directly but instead, she had asked Yi Ping.

Yi Ping was smiling awkwardly at the many questions that were fielded at once, "We did not have an easy time reaching the camps of the Celestial Aiel Sect. Along the way, we had fought with many opponents. I will tell you the details the next time. Eventually, we have met the Celestial Mistress and she had agreed to the proposal of the Holy Ascension Sect. It was then that the Wind Celeste Maiden brought us news that the Chaste Lunar Maiden had been captured by the Martial Deviant Clan. That was why I had turned back and that was how we had chanced upon you."

He began to sigh deeply when he realized how close he was to losing them...

Lele asked coldly, "She will risk herself to go to the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan with you?"

The Celeste Wind Maiden interrupted coldly, "You can ask me directly instead of making wild guesses."

However Lele was immediately suspicious as she tugged Yi Ping, "You

took a divine sword to the camps of the Celestial Aiel Sect. Instead of greeting you with swords and punches, Shi Shi even got a divine sword in return. And the Celestial Mistress will agree to your terms so readily with no strings attached?”

She looked unhappily at the Celeste Wind Maiden before adding, “And she will send her to aid you? Why is that our treatments are completely different from what you have received? Now tell me honestly, is the Celestial Mistress such a beautiful lady?”

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he said, “This has nothing to do with her appearances. She is really an understanding lady...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden interrupted with a wryly smile, “Oh. The Celestial Mistress is a peerless beauty in the Celestial Realm. There are only just a few who are able to grace her epitome beauty and Yi Ping is the lucky one. What’s more, he had seen her almost naked.”

Lele was startled and so were the other maidens except for Shi Shi!

The Chaste Lunar Maiden was even more startled as she gasped aloud, “That is impossible. The Celestial Mistress won’t see anyone. Moreover, she follows her rules religiously and there are no exceptions. Qian’Er, you are joking right?”

When Yi Ping had heard what Xiao Qian the Celeste Wind Maiden had just said, he coughed aloud and there was a drip of blood from his nose!

Lele did not want to believe what she was hearing but after seeing the expressions on Yi Ping, she turned exasperatingly to Shi Shi to ask, “Sister Shi Shi, is that true?”

Shi Shi said gently, “This is really hard to explain at the moment. We should try to maintain our pace with her first and be vigilant. We do not know where she is bringing us and what her motives are.”

Yi Ping quickly said, “That is right. Lele, things are not what you have Imagined. I tell you the details later alright?”

Yixian said gently, “Lele, Shi Shi is right. We should try to be vigilant first.”

Youxue shot Yi Ping a cold glance, "Tell me the details later as well. I will really like to know."

Yi Ping was smiling bitterly and knew that he was in terrible trouble!

While he was smiling bitterly, Yang Min and Jing'Er were both secretly looking at him...

Lele had to give up her questions but barely a moment had passed, she began to ask. "I give up. Why are we following a stranger?"

Yi Ping said, "Lele, let have a little patience first."

He called out to the golden hair maiden, "Maiden, where are we going? Where are you taking us?"

The golden hair heavenly maiden said without turning back, "You will know very soon."

She seemed slightly disturbed but no one could see her expressions. It was because she had been secretly eavesdropping on their conversations. And this Yi Ping did not seem to be the one that she was looking for...

Yang Min said discreetly to the Stellar Heaven Fairy and the Chaste Lunar Maiden, "She seems to be leading us down all the dangerous tracks. As soon as we walked past a path, the path behind us will collapse soon after. It is as though she is able to sense the movements of the earth."

Shi Shi the Stellar Heaven Fairy nodded slowly, "I have the same familiar feeling as well. She is making sure that no one will be able to follow us..."

Lele had overheard them and she had chipped in sarcastically, "Or to lead us into an ambush as to seize our divine swords."

She was obviously trying to provoke a reaction from the golden hair maiden but she appeared not to hear her.

Yixian said gently, "Speaking of the Divine Constellation Sword, it is more of a saddle sword than a swordsman sword. It is really unusual for someone to wield such a long sword to expert proficiency. Moreover did you see how she bends the sword?"

Yunzi replied demurely, “Normally if a sword can be bend forty-five degree and is still able to revert to the original position, then it can be considered as a precious sword. But she has the tenacity to bend it even more. Moreover, the length of the sword is really long. The longer it is, the more prone to breaking. You can imagine how difficult it is to craft such a precious divine sword.”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden sighed softly as she said, “I feel a little wasteful though that a precious divine sword of that rarity is given to Bai Liangong just like that.”

Youxue could not resist adding, “Same here but somehow I feel that something is amiss here.”

Lie Qing nodded, “I will never give up my divine sword for any other reasons. I will probably be like Sister Xingyue and fight to keep my divine sword.”

Yang Min nodded, “That is right. I don’t understand...”

Lie Qing looked at Yi Ping and teased him, “Ping’Er, what do you think?”

Immediately, all the maidens other than the golden hair heavenly maiden were looking at Yi Ping.

Yi Ping had a weird feeling because he had suddenly noticed that they were all looking at him with a curious look. But this curious look was not simply a curious look; their eyes were affectionate and tender when they were looking at him!

This caused Yi Ping to be uncomfortable as he replied, “I...sorry. I am not paying any attention. What is it?”

Lie Qing smiled as she repeated gently, “If you were her, will you give up your divine sword in such a carefree manner?”

Yi Ping smiled awkwardly, “I guess I will if it is for a worthy cause...”

Immediately Lie Qing groaned while Yixian had an amused smile on her.

Yi Ping was startled at the reaction that Lie Qing had so he asked,

“Qing’Er, what is the matter?”

Lie Qing muttered softly, “If it is others, I will never believe. But if it is from you, I will surely believe. I shouldn’t have asked someone like you in the first place!”

Not only did Yi Ping not steal her Perpetual Darkness, he had also tried to revive her by giving her the Divine Dragon Pill!

Yunzi, Yixian, Lele, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Youxue were all looking at Yi Ping affectionately as they recalled their adventures in the past with him!

The Celeste Wind Maiden appraised Yi Ping quietly as she thought, “He really meant to give me the Aiel Rejuvenation Pill?”

The Chaste Lunar Maiden and Yang Min were thinking at the same time, “He is a real selfless hero. Sister Shi Shi is so lucky to be with a hero like him...”

Lie Qing said, “No matter what, it seems that Bai Liangong has a really good bargain. What I am afraid of right now is that after he has obtained the divine sword, he will be right after us. We need a contingency plan first.”

All of a sudden, the golden hair heavenly maiden paused in her tracks as she turned around with a cold smile, “That Bai Liangong won’t be coming anytime soon.”

Yi Ping was startled as he asked, “What do you mean?”

The golden hair heavenly maiden replied coldly, “That is because he will be in for a real shock.”

There was a tinge of amusement in her eyes that was followed by a wry smile. It seemed that she had thought of something funny.

Yunzi asked her, “Just now when you have thrust the Divine Constellation Sword into the ground, I have noticed a brilliant flash of light that seemed to project the Universal Force. Only a few divine swords are able to exhibit the Universal Force and the Celestial Alice is one of

them. If I am not wrong, Bai Liangong won't be able to pull the Divine Constellation Sword from the ground."

Immediately the golden hair heavenly maiden was groaning softly as she replied coldly, "So you know?"

She took a look at Yi Ping and Yixian before she added, "I have forgotten that someone here is also capable of wielding the Universal Force."

All of a sudden, a purple stroke of lightning exploded thunderously from the skies with such earthshaking resonate that it seemed that the entire mountains were collapsing!

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were so startled that they had turned pale!

The golden hair heavenly maiden smiled coldly, "It seems that someone had now received a great shock when he had exercised his martial power to lift the Divine Constellation Sword."

Yang Min was startled as she muttered, "He...will die?"

The golden hair heavenly maiden said coolly, "With his level of divinity and martial power, he won't but he will probably lose more than half of his martial power. It will take him some time for him to fully recuperate. That will teach him a lesson for lusting after something that he shouldn't set his sight on."

She coolly raised her fingers to the heavens and all of a sudden, there was a golden light in the heavens!

Before everyone could react, a golden beam of light flew down and landed thunderous next to her!

At the same time, several ringing bursts of windforce exploded outward!

Yi Ping, Yixian, Shi Shi, Youxue and the rest of the maidens immediately exhibited their martial skills or raised their long sleeves to shield themselves from the flying debris and the dust!

Almost immediately, Yixian and Youxue had cleared the remnants of the sudden exploding outburst with their Divine Emerald Skill as they

sent gentle flurrying windforce one after another to steer clear of their group.

When the dust had cleared, the Divine Constellation Sword had reappeared and it had thrust itself halfway into the ground!

Everyone was startled to see the Divine Constellation Sword again!

The Celeste Wind Maiden drawn out her Celeste Wind Divine Sword as she asked coldly, “Just who are you? You can actually recall your divine sword in this manner? I know of no other celestial practitioners that can do that!”

Yi Ping was unhappy, “You have actually broken your promise. If you don’t want to give him the divine sword, you can choose not to offer it. But you have actually resort to such an underhand method to humiliate him...”

The golden hair heavenly maiden interrupted coldly, “Do you think that he will keep his promise? Do you think that the rest of the celestial practitioners will let it rest just like this? Let me tell you, they are simply waiting for reinforcements and waiting for the smaller clans to take us out first. In this way, they can simply wait it out and conserve their martial strength for the Stellar Sanctuary.”

She lifted her fingers and pointed down the mountains, “Look carefully.”

Everyone turned and looked behind them.

Indeed, hundreds of moving black dots could be seen in the distant!

Yi Ping was startled, “Bai Liangong didn’t intend to keep his promise?”

Yang Min said gently, “He is a scheming man. He will use both soft and hard tactics to get what he wants. If you really believe that he will keep his word, then you are very much mistaken.”

The golden hair heavenly maiden added coldly, “If he keeps his word then he won’t be struck by the Divine Lightning.”

All of a sudden, there was a rush of light wind and the Celeste Wind Maiden had raised her divine sword as she flew towards the golden hair

maiden with a startling speed, “Just who are you? No one is able to control the nature forces...”

In a blink of an eye, the Celeste Wind Maiden had made four piercing attack strokes on the golden hair heavenly maiden. She was so close to hitting her when the golden hair heavenly maiden had suddenly grabbed the Divine Constellation Sword, blocked all her attacks with the scabbard and pushed her back with her martial force!

The Celeste Wind Maiden was sent skipping backward with a tremendous martial outburst as dusts were sent whirling in all directions. She was startled as she gasped, “She is so strong!”

And before she could regain her footing, the golden hair heavenly maiden had appeared in front of her with her fingers that was aimed at her forehead!

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled!

But all of a sudden, Yixian the Celestial Fairy had appeared in front of her as she exchanged a few blows with the golden hair heavenly maiden before she was knocked backward as well!

The golden hair heavenly maiden said coldly to Yixian, “I have almost thought that you are her reincarnation. But I have guessed you are not.”

But before the golden hair heavenly maiden could take another step forward, Yi Ping had drawn out the Celestial Alice in front of her as he said, “That is enough. Who are you? You say you have something to ask me?”

The golden hair heavenly maiden sighed softly as she withdrawn her stance before saying, “That is right. I have almost forgotten about it.”

But she continued to look at Yixian coldly.

Yixian was also a little startled. After exchanging a few blows with the golden hair heavenly maiden, her fingers were now trembling!

At the same time, the Celeste Wind Maiden and Yixian were silently exchanging startled look with each other while the rest of the maidens

had surrounded them in a defensive position!

Lele and Lie Qing immediately asked Yixian, "Sister, are you alright?"

Yixian nodded as she replied gently, "She is really strong. Her attack stance is exactly like the..."

The golden hair heavenly maiden looked intently at Yi Ping as she asked coldly, "The Goddess Celestial Alice. You have met her and have ended her? Or else the Astronomic Stellar Formation will not vanish just like this. So you have finally managed to harden your heart. Well done."

Yi Ping could feel a cold chill in his heart when she was asking him. It was because he could feel her piercing cold malevolent air in his entire body!

But he willed through his Absolute Spirits and calmed himself down with the Emptiness Translucence as he said quietly, "Yes, I have destroyed the Astronomic Stellar Formation. But until today, I don't know if she is the Goddess Celestial Alice or the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. If you want to look for her for answer, then you have to go to the underworld for an answer."

Lie Qing smiled to herself as she thought, "Ping'Er is not good with lying but this time he manages well."

Even Yunzi could not help having a secret smile!

Actually Yi Ping did not lie at all. He was really confused. But because he had sensed the ill-intentions of this golden hair heavenly maiden toward Maiden Ziyang, he did not want to tell her anything. Since he figured out that everyone would eventually go to the underworld, he decided to use that as an answer.

The Celeste Wind Maiden, Jing'Er and Yang Min were startled. It was because the Goddess Celestial Alice and the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos were mythical figures. Yi Ping had met one of them and had even destroyed the Astronomic Stellar Formation?!

How could this even be possible?

The golden hair heavenly maiden seemed pleased with the answer though and she was smiling, "She must have died or else the Astronomic Stellar Formation will still be around."

When Yi Ping had mentioned the underworld, she seemed to have assumed that the Goddess Celestial Alice had passed on to the underworld.

Now that she was smiling, it seemed like the gloomy atmosphere had been lifted from the vicinity!

Yi Ping was startled at her suddenly transformation!

The golden hair heavenly maiden said gently, "Do you know that I have been waiting for you all this while? Do you know how hurt I was when you take her side? I don't understand how you can forgive her for decimating half of our race? You...really can't remember me or is it because you refuse to acknowledge me?"

Yi Ping said respectfully, "Maiden, I really don't know who you are. I am Yi Ping and I am a newly arrival in the Celestial Realm. Therefore it isn't possible for me to know who you. But if you can honor me with your name, then at the very least we can still be friends..."

The golden hair heavenly maiden took a step back as she shook her head melancholy, "No, that is impossible. He is dead...she is dead as well...I am now all alone...to think that I have awakened from my thousand year slumber only to find that everyone that I had once known is no longer here..."

She shook her head again as she gasped softly, "But the voice that has awakened me from my slumber is his voice. Or else, I won't be awakened for another thousand years. It is his voice that has lent strength to my will..."

All of a sudden, she began to cough weakly. As she moved her hands to cover her coughing, everyone was startled to see her fingers soaking with her blood!

Yi Ping was startled as he asked, "Maiden, you have internal injuries?"

The golden hair heavenly maiden muttered, "It is all thanks to the Goddess Celestial Alice and the Goddess Aiel..."

Jing'Er and Xiao Qian looked quietly at each other at the mention of the Goddess Aiel...

All of a sudden, the golden hair heavenly maiden looked melancholy at Yi Ping, "You are Yi Ping?"

Yi Ping nodded quietly.

She said quietly, "I am the Goddess Isa. That is my celestial name."

Yi Ping was a little startled. It was because her celestial name was unlike the majority. A celestial name like a martial fraternity name was a title that had clear meaning. But her name was exactly like the Goddess Celestial Alice. It was as though Isa was her name and Goddess was her honorific title!

Lele hummed coldly, "Yet another Goddess."

But the Goddess Isa ignored her as she said to Yi Ping, "I have forcefully awakened and aggravated my internal injuries. There is nothing for you to worry about. I won't die."

Yi Ping heaved a sigh of relief.

The Goddess Isa added as she looked at Yixian coldly, "Your divine sword is too dangerous to be in your hands. You have better surrender to me for safeguarding."

Immediately, Yixian, Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens had turned ashen!

It was because from her icy tone, it did not seem that she was joking.

The Goddess Isa said, "You do realize that you are all not my equal even in my present weaken state. If you don't want to force my hand, then you have better persuade her to hand over her divine sword quietly."

Yi Ping said firmly, "That is impossible. Maiden, if you continue to insist on it then don't blame me..."

The Goddess Isa interrupted coldly, "You have already hurt me so much. I don't mind anymore."

Yi Ping was startled, "I...don't know what you mean..."

All of a sudden, the Goddess Isa flipped her long sleeves and stirred up a powerful martial windforce that was directed at them!

This immediately caused all of them to prepare a defensive stance as a respond to her sudden provocation!

Yixian raised her fingers to dispel the martial windforce that was around her as she stepped forward while saying gently, "I am the Celestial Fairy. I am sorry that I cannot surrender my sword to you. It is because this sword has saved my life while I am attempting my Divine Calamity. Even though I am not your match, this does not mean that I will not fight you."

Yi Ping raised the Celestial Alice and he was followed by all the other maidens as he called out aloud, "Xian'Er, don't fight her alone. We will fight her together!"

The Goddess Isa looked at Yi Ping melancholy as she muttered, "You will fight me..."

Youxue nodded, "My dear protégé mistress and sister! Don't be foolish!"

Lie Qing added, "We know we may not be her match but we are all going to try anyway!"

Lele had raised the Divine Echo in front of her as she said, "I am not afraid of her."

Xian Qian the Celeste Wind Maiden smiled coldly, "The same goes for me as well."

The Goddess Isa said coldly, "That is your choice to make..."

Yixian said coldly, "You have only one opponent and that is me."

Shi Shi called out, "Xian'Er, don't..."

Yang Min had also called out, "Revelation Star, she is not an opponent

that you can win...”

Jing’Er said, “Don’t. Together, we may still stand a fighting chance...”

Yixian replied firmly, “She is indeed very strong. I already know it when I had exchanged strokes with her earlier. However, this is my fight alone. If anyone wants to intervene then I will have to fight you first.”

Yi Ping was startled, “Xian’Er, no!”

Yixian said coldly, “Even if it is you, Ping’Er.”

Yi Ping was stunned, “Xian’Er...”

Yixian said silently to herself, “Forgive me, Ping’Er. I don’t want to give up the Heavenly Earth Sword and I don’t want any harm to come to all of you...”

The Goddess Isa said coldly, “I applaud your courage to challenge me alone. If you able to exchange thirty strokes with me and if I fail to defeat you, then you can keep your divine sword and I will go away quietly. How is that?”

Yi Ping shook his head, “Xian’Er, no please...”

However Yixian said to the Goddess Isa, “I will accept your challenge.”

Yixian looked at Yi Ping before looking at the rest of the maidens quietly, “Thirty strokes will pass very quickly. Please accede to my request. This is my fight alone.”

Yunzi said aloud, “Thirty strokes are not a problem for Sister Xian’Er. Why are we worrying so much? I bet that the Goddess Isa will be the one who will be regretting soon after. Am I right, sisters?”

Yunzi knew this was not the time to distract Yixian anymore. She had already made up her mind and the only thing she could do now was to support her quietly...

The Celeste Wind Maiden was quiet as she thought, “I am not sure if I can even handle ten strokes from this Goddess Isa...”

Lele said to Yi Ping, “Ping’Er, let us accede to Sister Xian’Er or we will

only be distracting her.”

Lie Qing closed her eyes and said, “I have faith in Sister Xian’Er...”

But deep inside their hearts, they were secretly afraid.

Yi Ping was trembling, “Lele and Lie Qing, she is really strong...”

Yixian and the Goddess Isa were already encircling each other rapidly with cold stares!

Yi Ping was worried.

How could he not be worried?

Yixian may be an internal art expert and her martial level may be impressive but she had rarely practiced her swordplay.

Swordplay was unlike unarmed martial arts; the sword practitioner had to constantly practice with it to be accustomed to the weight of the sword while revolving the many different types of sword strokes.

While a sword was easy to use, it was difficult to reach the apex of swordplay!

Yixian had drawn out the Heavenly Earth Sword to display a Heaven Forward Stance. The metallic resonate of her divine sword was thrilling; three golden halo had also appeared and disappeared just as quickly.

There was no doubt that Yixian had already divine harmonized with the Heavenly Earth Sword!

Shi Shi, Jing’Er and Yang Min were gasping at the mesmerizing beauty of the Heavenly Earth Sword. This was not the first time that they had seen the Heavenly Earth Sword but this was the first time that they had seen the Heavenly Earth Sword echoed so spiritedly!

The Goddess Isa had also unsheathed the Divine Constellation Sword with a brilliant purple light. She held her divine sword in a horizontal direction with her right hand while supporting it with her left fingers as she said coldly. “How about I let you have the benefit of three strokes?”

Yixian replied coldly, “You will surely regret it.”

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “Oh really? I will like to see...”

All of a sudden, Yixian had charged forward with a startling speed as she displayed the Rushing Phoenix Sword Stance from the Melody Palace!

Shi Shi was startled, “I have never seen her displaying this sword stance before but the level of expertise is that of an experienced hand! When did she learn it?”

Yixian had displayed a sword rush on the Goddess Isa with such startling speed that she was upon the Goddess Isa in an instant but still her opponent had parried it aside with a slight movement of her sword!

Immediately, there was a sudden thunderous outburst of martial force when the two divine swords had clashed!

The Celeste Wind Maiden gasped as she thought, “Her attack speed and movements are my equal...”

The Goddess Isa said nonchalantly, “First stroke!”

But Yixian had immediately changed her sword stroke to an arc when her first stroke had been blocked but the Goddess Isa blocked her second stroke just as easily!

Again there was a second thunderous martial outburst that sent Yixian knocking backward even as the Goddess Isa counted, “Second stroke!”

Almost immediately Yixian had waved her sleeve to display the Divine Emerald Skill as she sent a rebound force backward to propel herself forward again as she executed the Rushing Phoenix Sword Stance once more!

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “The same stance won’t work against me twice.”

Yixian was upon her again but this time there were several icy energy projections as she empowered her Icy Heavenly Tears to her apex level to execute the strongest technique of the Frosty Icicle Swordplay, the Icicle Sword Energies!

Immediately chilling cold energies exploded in front of the Goddess Isa,

forcing her take a step back as she displayed a flurry of sword strokes to dissipate the offensive cold sword energies!

The Goddess Isa counted at the same time, "Third stroke!"

Yixian was not about to give up as she quickly unleashed a flurry of sword thrusts at her opponent!

But the Goddess Isa was able to evade all her sword strokes by moving a step back and turning her body!

Yixian had gasped out as she thought, "Even with that heavy armor of hers, she is still able to evade and turn so quickly. She is really formidable..."

All of a sudden, she took aim at the face of the Goddess Isa with an upward thrust!

But still, the Goddess Isa simply lifted her sword and her attack was blocked with a thunderous martial outburst even before it could even fully begin!

As Yixian was slightly swept aside by the powerful resulting martial force, the Goddess Isa had slashed her shoulder with her sword!

Immediately, all the other maidens gasped with shock...

At the same time the Goddess Isa had also raised her fingers to stab Yixian!

But Yixian was able to evade by executing several quick movements backward as she displayed her epitome swiftness skill!

However she was also breathless from the sheer physical toll as she thought. "She is like an impervious wall. How am I supposed to win against her?"

The Goddess Isa had immediately gathered her sleeves as she continued to stand in the same spot while saying, "Is that the best you can do? As the mistress of the Heavenly Tears Divine Sword, this is the best you can do? You really disappoint me."

Yixian muttered softly to herself, "Is this the best that I, the Celestial

Fairy can do? I can clearly see her strokes yet there are nothing I can do to breach her invincibility? Or you are too soft?"

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, "Or do you want to concede? You better concede or you will only be embarrassing yourself."

Yi Ping called out, "Xian'Er, it doesn't matter. It is not shameful to concede..."

Even Lele and Lie Qing were calling out the same time. It was because they were worried that if the duel dragged on, Yixian may endanger herself!

But Yixian continued to raise the Heavenly Earth Sword in an attack stance as she looked quietly at Yi Ping, "I...I refuse! It is all because of me that Ye Yin almost died the last time. If i had not lost the duel or rather I had refused to use the Heavenly Earth Sword and it resulted in my defeat the last time."

She looked at Yi Ping quietly as she thought, "When did I become so weak? I seem to have lost much of my self-confident since I have come to the Celestial Realm."

All of a sudden she had flown at the Goddess Isa with a startling speed which resulted in a light blue aurora in the wake of her attacks!

Yixian muttered softly, "It is not over yet!"

She was not afraid of losing. She was afraid of losing Yi Ping. That was why she must not lose! She renewed her fighting spirit as she aimed her sword at the Goddess Isa!

Immediately there were several loud bursts of martial shockwaves as Yixian and the Goddess Isa exchanged several sword strokes with each other!

In a blink of an eye, both of them had encircled each other many times. Each time they had engaged with each other, several thunderous martial shockwaves and sword energies bursts would explode thunderous outward. Then they would disengage and appeared in another location as they crossed their swords furiously again!

They were moving and crossing swords so fast that it was nearly impossible to see who was really on the defensive and who was on the offensive!

Yi Ping was startled that Yixian's swordplay actually could meet the speed and martial strength of the Goddess Isa!

Yunzi was also startled. It was not because Yixian's speed attacks would match the Goddess Isa but because Yixian was displaying the speed swordplay of several prominent sword clans including the Infinity Sword Clan!

She was thinking, "When did Yixian learn the sword strokes of the Infinity Sword Sect to this level of mastery?"

Yi Ping was also thinking, "Yixian had once taught me the Listening Rhythm Skill. With her superior eyesight and hearing, it is entirely possible that she may have mastered the Mirror Reflection Skill?"

Youxue was startled, "Did she just display the Illusory Stroke of the Virtuous Swordplay? Without the intricacy formula of the Virtue Swords, this stroke is impossible to copy to its fullest extent. So how is it possible for Yixian to display it? Even Yunzi is unable to use this sword stroke. Unless..."

All of a sudden, she had remembered that Yixian and her father were old friends. It was entirely possible for Xiao Shuai who was her father to impart this secret sword skill to her!

At this point even Yunzi had already figured out, "Sister Xian'Er once plundered almost the entire martial fraternity of their secret martial manuals and many of her accomplices were also the future martial leaders of the fraternity..."

Lie Qing muttered, "Sister Xian'Er is so good with her swordplay but why is that we have never really seen her with a sword?"

Lele said casually, "Why do you think Yu'Er and Mei'Er fraternity names are the Jade Sword Fairy and the Beautiful Sword Fairy? It does seem to me that Sister Xian'Er is grooming them to be sword practitioners for a

reason. They are so young and already so good. I really cannot imagine if they were to train for another twenty years!”

But right now, they could only pray for Yixian as they knew that it would take much more to defeat the Goddess Isa and Yixian was simply changing her sword strokes rapidly so that she could find a suitable swordplay to overcome her opponent!

At this moment, Yixian had already exercised her Eternal Heavenly Tears to her fullness, becoming one with the Heavenly Earth Sword as she sent bursts of chilling sword energies through it!

They were exchanging sword strokes so rapidly that there were many close calls between them and it was so breathtaking that it caused everyone to freeze on the spot!

The Goddess Isa had already used more than thirty strokes but everyone was totally mesmerized by the duel to remember or count!

Yixian could seem to hit the Goddess Isa but her attack would always be parried by a supernatural reflex in the last minute. The same happened when the Goddess Isa had attacked Yixian; her explosive impale attacks would be deflected at the very last minute by the martial force of Yixian’s Divine Emerald Skill.

As the two exchanged their attacks, powerful windforce exploded thunderous in all directions and the entire vicinity was completely enveloped by powerful destructive wind vortexes that were tearing all the trees and loose rocks apart!

Everyone was stunned at this martial power display; they had never seen anything like this before!

The Goddess Isa had just deflected a quick stroke that was directed at her face aside when she lifted her long sword to say, “That’s enough already.”

All of a sudden she had displayed four rapid powerful burst of piercing strokes aimed at Yixian as she called out coldly, “This is my special sword technique, the Unanimous Quadruplet Hits!”

Yixian gasped aloud; she was overwhelmed by the startling powerful martial outburst that had accompanied this epitome sword technique as she took a step backward. However her eyes were full of defiant as she exercised all her martial power to execute the Absolute Defense Stance of the Divine Emerald Skill to meet the incoming sword strokes!

But as soon as she had rushed forward with her sword, she had realized how deadly this sword technique was when her martial force was suddenly dissipated with only two hits. Another hit had struck her sword and disrupted her internal strength while the last hit had struck her with a powerful shockwave!

Even before she could react, the Goddess Isa had continued to unleash a flurry of sword energies as she said coldly, "You are dead."

Yixian coughed out blood as she staggered back but not before she mustered her Divine Emerald Skill through her sword to dissipate the deadly sword energies in a nick of time!

She willed all her remaining strength for a counter-attack as she charged forward with the Rushing Phoenix Sword Stance while muttering weakly, "I won't give up...because I am the Celestial Fairy..."

The Goddess Isa answered breathlessly, "My sword is longer than your sword. You can never win me..."

All of a sudden the golden blades of the Heavenly Earth Sword glowed with such an intense bright light that it caused everyone to shield their eyes briefly from it and much to the astonishments of everyone, the Heavenly Earth Sword began to disintegrate as blue cracks splintered on its blade!

Before everyone could realize what was going on, Yixian was upon the Goddess Isa in the next instant; the Heavenly Earth Sword had become a blue white sword that was thinner and longer. It was exactly the same length as the Divine Constellation Sword!

In that single moment, the Heavenly Earth Sword seemed to be enveloped by a globe of powerful blue white sword energies as it pierced forward!

It was so powerful that the entire ground around them had exploded violently with several secondary martial shockwaves that rippled in all directions!

Yixian too was startled at the sudden transformation of the Heavenly Earth Sword but she did not hesitate at all as she swung her long sword in a left to right sword arc at the Goddess Isa and betting everything that she had got with this single stroke!

The Goddess Isa had also empowered her Divine Constellation Sword with everything that she had got once she realized that this was not any ordinary sword energies but the Universal Force!

She was startled when she realized that Yixian was able to unseal the Heavenly Earth Sword into a true divine sword as she gasped, “You are... also one of us?!”

As they clashed with multiple quick attack strokes, cold sword energies waves and martial shockwave exploded from where their sword exchanges had taken place!

The explosion was so violent that the two of them had disappeared in a column of thick dust cloud as circles of sword energies exploded nonstop in the vicinity!

Yi Ping called out aloud, “Yixian!” as he took quick steps backward but he was flung off by the violent martial force that had not died down yet!

He was quickly caught hold by Youxue and the Celeste Wind Maiden at the same time!

Lele and Lie Qing were also stunned as they called out aloud, “Sister Xian’Er!”

All of a sudden the thunderous sword exchanges had stopped but the dust and debris were so thick that no one could see the outcome or hear any heart beats!

Yi Ping was trembling as he took trembling steps forward but his entire legs had become jelly!

Even Lie Qing and Lele had turned completely white!

Yunzi, Youxue, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Shi Shi, Jing'Er and Yang Min were also trembling lightly!

Who had won?

It was not long before a lone shadow could be seen in the midst of the vaporizing dust storm!

Eventually a heavenly maiden in a light blue long sleeve robe and dress could be seen with a long white blue sword. She looked like Yixian but her long hair was a light blue and on her forehead were five small light blue color lines!

Yi Ping stammered out at the sight of this peerless heavenly beauty, "Xian'Er?"

But she had to be Yixian because the Goddess Isa was lying on the ground!

All the other maidens were all stunned, scarcely believing what they were seeing. Not only had Yixian won unscathed but she had also shattered the golden armor of the Goddess Isa!

The Celeste Wind Maiden muttered with stunned disbelief, "She had actually awakened her Heaven Eyes in the middle of the battle?"

But before they could celebrate her victory, Yixian had collapsed next to the Goddess Isa!

Chapter 129: The Icy Dragon Maiden

As the Celestial Fairy collapsed next to the Goddess Isa, the blue marking on her forehead and her light blue hair had reverted to her normal raven black at the same time!

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens had rushed forward immediately!

Both the Celestial Fairy and the Goddess Isa were very pale; their breathings and pulses were also very weak!

Yi Ping was holding Yixian in his arms and her body was cold to the touch!

Lele was examining Yixian while the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Stellar Heaven Fairy were examining the Goddess Isa.

Lele was ashen she shook her head, "Sister Xian'Er..."

Even if Lele did not say it, Yi Ping could tell that Yixian had sustained serious internal injuries. It was because even though he had tried to infuse his internal energies to her, there was not a single respond from her body. It was as though he was infusing to an inanimate object!

Youxue was also trying to revive Yixian with her internal energies but to no avail. Her Icy Heavenly Tears was of the same origin as the Celestial Fairy. If there was any other who could treat Yixian's internal injuries right now, it had to be Youxue!

But Youxue was already in tears as she shook her head!

Yi Ping asked panicky, "I have an Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill here. It may be helpful..."

Youxue said, "They are both injured by the Universal Force which severely impaired their energy channels. I have tried using my internal strength to force out the Universal Force from her but no matter how I hard I have tried, my internal energies cannot amalgamate with her vital channels..."

Yi Ping was stunned as he turned completely white, "Is Xian'Er going to

die then...”

The Stellar Heaven Fairy was also shaking her head as she examined the Goddess Isa, “Her internal injuries are also hopelessly serious. Her energy channels are broken completely...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was looking blankly at the Goddess Isa; it seemed that she was contemplating something.

Jing’Er shook her head, “Don’t think about it. She deserves an honorable burial.”

The Celeste Wind Celeste said melancholy, “That is because all of you are golden celestial practitioners and did not know what dark celestial practitioners have to undergo...”

All of a sudden, Lele stood up and said. “I do not know? Like you, I am a dark celestial practitioner in the past. But now I am a golden celestial practitioner. If I can do it, why can’t you? And you claim to be one of the seven most powerful celestial fighters of this generation? Where is your willpower? If you really want to be a golden celestial then you must first overcome yourself.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled, “You were once a dark celestial practitioner?”

Lele nodded melancholy, “Why should I lie to you? So that I can make fun of you?”

Yunzi nodded as she said, “That is the truth. Lele was once a dark celestial practitioner...”

Youxue whispered panicky all of a sudden, “Be careful! There are intruders approaching. Judging from the pace of their swiftness movement, they are certainly no ordinary opponent...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden had also detected the slight movements of the intruders. However, her superior sense seemed to tell her that the intruders were not moving steadily and seemed to have broken into an argument!

Yi Ping had already stood up with the Celestial Alice as he said to Youxue, "Xue'Er, I leave Xian'Er to you. Please do your best to help her. I will fight the intruders off."

The Stellar Heaven Fairy said quietly to Yi Ping, "I will join you as well. You are really in no condition to fight alone in your present state."

Lele said to Youxue, "Take care of Sister Xian'Er first. I will join to fight off the intruders too."

Youxue nodded with a soft sigh while Yunzi, Yang Min and the Celeste Wind Maiden had also readied a defensive combat stance around Youxue, Yixian and the Goddess Isa!

Yunzi said quietly, "Lele and Shi Shi will fight off the intruders first while the three of us will form a second defensive perimeter against the intruders then."

Lele laughed softly as she fingered with her Divine Echo, "Maybe I alone is enough to deal with them."

Shi Shi smiled gently, "Lele be careful please. There are many cunning fighters in the Celestial Realm. Unless you have seen their secret techniques or attacks before, there is no guarantee of a win all the time."

Yi Ping looked blankly at Yixian and the Goddess Isa as he muttered incoherently, "It is all my fault...Xian'Er, you must pull through..."

Lie Qing took Yi Ping gently by his right arm as she tried to console him, "Ping'Er...if we take Yixian to the Holy Ascension Sect then there is a good chance that we may be able to help her. Right now, there are numerous celestial experts that have gathered at the Holy Ascension Sect."

Yi Ping had a glitter of hope in his eyes as he muttered, "That's right... surely one or two of these celestial experts will have a way..."

"When have you become such a coward? It is you who has insisted on coming along and now you are asking me to turn back?"

"Han Lin, you don't understand. I have a powerful enemy. If she sees me

then I am dead...”

“If you really want to turn back then why are you still following me?”

“Han Lin, I am telling you it is dangerous to go ahead. Trust me this time...”

“So you are worried for me? Or you don’t want to get your Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill back anymore?”

“Let’s turn back as soon as possible...”

“There are only less than ten opponents in front of us. Come on, what are you so afraid of?”

Yi Ping, Shi Shi, the Celeste Wind Maiden and Jing’Er were all startled. It was because they had recognized that these voices belonged to the Celestial Mistress and Han Lin!

The Celeste Wind Maiden heaved a soft sigh of relief to the others as she said, “They are not enemies. One day, their bickering will cost them dearly. They should exercise stealth in hostile territories.”

All of a sudden, Jing’Er said aloud. “Yi Ping!”

Yi Ping was startled when the Chaste Lunar Maiden had suddenly called out his name as he asked, “Yes?”

Jing’Er said, “The Celestial Mistress! If there is a celestial expert that can save Revelation Star and this Goddess Isa, it has to be her!”

Yi Ping asked hurriedly, “Really?! She has a way?”

Jing’Er nodded as she looked at Xiao Qian the Celeste Wind Maiden, “That is right. The Celestial Mistress may specialize in using poisons but she is also a divine physician. Or else she won’t be able concoct the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden added, “The Celestial Mistress is really good. In fact, she is one of the three Divine Physicians of the Celestial Realm. She is the best person to consult.”

An attractive and jovial maiden in white and green dress had just

walked into view. Just behind her was a veiled maiden in a revealing white dress. Even though she was veiled but it was impossible to hide her peerless exquisiteness.

Indeed, they were Han Lin and the Celestial Mistress respectively. When they saw Jing'Er, Yi Ping and the Celeste Wind Maiden, they were equally startled!

Lele, Yunzi, Youxue, Lie Qing, Shi Shi and Yang Mi were looking intently at them as they did not know if they were really friends or foes.

Yi Ping was stunned to see her again but somehow he was also glad as she reminded him too much of his late mother.

Jing'Er and the Celeste Wind Maiden immediately said respectfully, "Our respects to the Celestial Mistress!"

The Celestial Mistress appeared to be a little distracted and she was actually looking in the direction of the unconscious Yixian and the Goddess Isa as she gasped aloud, "The Heavenly Tears Divine Sword and the Divine Constellation Sword!"

She was secretly startled as she thought, "The Heavenly Tears Divine Sword has actually revealed her true form to that maiden? How can this possibly be happening? It is something that even I am unable to do so..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked, "You are here alone?"

Han Lin laughed softly, "Our Mistress is worried about..."

The Celestial Mistress gasped shyly, "Han Lin, you..."

Han Lin added quickly, "She is worried about her Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill...I mean for Xiao Qian and Jing'Er. Therefore we have decided to come incognito ourselves. The sounds of battle here have brought our attentions to this place. It seemed that a fierce battle had taken place here a while ago? The vicinity here is still filled with deadly martial energies that have not dissipated yet."

The Celestial Mistress heaved a soft sigh of shy relief but she muttered coldly, "Worried about the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill? It is not even a

living thing!”

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens who had heard them were all smiling weakly. No one could find the heart to believe that they were traveling incognito for they had heard them from a mile away!

Han Lin ignored the Celestial Mistress and looked at Yi Ping with a broad smile, “It seems that you have brought our dear Jing’Er back to us. How did you manage to do it? It is simply too astonishing. You must tell me about it or I will be upset!”

She was obviously flirting with YI Ping!

But Yi Ping was looking at the Celestial Mistress instead while he said quickly to Han Lin, “I will.”

He quickly mustered his courage to ask the Celestial Mistress respectfully, “I have a favor to ask...”

But before Yi Ping could state his request, Lele had asked coldly. “Who are they? How come you have never told me about them?”

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he said, “I did mention the Celestial Mistress to you. Lele, I will explain to you later...”

Han Lin smiled at Lele, “I am Han Lin the Celestial Priestess of the Celestial Aiel Sect and who you are?”

Lele replied coldly, “I am the Joyful Goddess and I am not pleased to know you!”

This immediately invited chuckles from Jing’Er who quickly said, “She saved my life earlier.”

Yi Ping was in no mood to be involved in their minor squabbles so he quickly turned to the Celestial Mistress to say, “I have a favor to ask the Celestial Mistress. I have two...”

He had raised his fingers to point at Yixian and the Goddess Isa when the Celestial Mistress rolled her eyes demurely to say, “I refuse to. Especially that Goddess Isa.”

Jing’Er and the Celeste Wind Maiden were startled that the Celestial

Mistress would reject Yi Ping's request even before he could even state his request and were even more surprised that she had known the name of the Goddess Isa!

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were also startled!

Yi Ping immediately fell onto the ground; his eyes were teary as he began to plead to her but the Celestial Mistress sent out a quick kick that knocked him aside as she said, "The knees of a man are his gold and dignity. How can you be so callous as to kneel down to anyone just like this? And a real man sheds blood and not tears."

Yi Ping wept aloud and everyone could see the hot tears that were on his face as he hit the ground with his fist in frustration, "Yixian is very important to me. I will do anything for her..."

Han Lin muttered to the Celestial Mistress, "Why are you so cold today? It is not like asking you to chop off your arm to save someone."

The Celestial Mistress hummed coldly, "They are not my sect protégés or even affiliated with our clan. Why should I help them? Let them die. It will only be for the best."

Han Lin muttered, "Weird, someone just gave out her Aiel Rejuvenate Divine Pill earlier to a stranger."

But the Celestial Mistress hummed coldly with an unhappy look in her eyes.

Jing'Er coughed weakly as she lifted her vital breath to move next to the Celestial Mistress as she pleaded, "Mistress, please help them. Yixian and this Goddess Isa have saved us from the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan. Otherwise you wouldn't be able to see Xian Qian and I today!"

She paused to catch her breath, "I know Yixian as Revelation Star in the past. She is my protégé..."

She looked at the Celestial Mistress silently. It was because she was hinting to her that Yixian was also her great grand protégé before saying, "Isn't that obvious since she is the mistress of the Heavenly Earth Sword?"

The Celeste Wind Maiden was also saying coldly, "You are able to help or you are actually incapable of helping?"

Lele, Lie Qing, Youxue, Shi Shi and Yunzi were all pleading at the same time, "Will the Celestial Mistress please lend a helping hand!"

The resolute of the Celestial Mistress seemed to have weakened as she took a step forward before halting again!

There were hesitations in her eyes!

She was looking at the Goddess Isa and there seemed to be a delighted smile in her expression as she muttered incoherently, "To think that you will fall into my hands. This is really something that I have always been dreaming of. So our invincible battle maiden will actually fall? Defeated by my Heavenly Tears Divine Sword? So the prophecy is true. You will actually chase me because of a stupid prophecy?"

Han Lin asked, "What are you rambling about? Can you do anything or not?"

Yi Ping asked nervously, "Is there a thing you can do?"

The Celestial Mistress looked up at Yi Ping, "You will do anything for me if I agree to treat them whether I can succeed or not?"

Yi Ping replied quickly, "As long as it is not against the righteousness of the martial code, I will. As long as you are willing to try..."

The Celestial Mistress said quietly, "I can try to treat this Maiden Yixian but not the Goddess Isa."

All of a sudden, the Goddess Isa had stirred weakly as she coughed out a bout of blood!

Immediately Shi Shi was by her side as she struck her back rapidly to help her to clear her blocked channels as she said quietly, "You should rest. Your injuries are too serious and you are aggravating your injuries."

The Goddess Isa was trembling weakly as she stared blankly in the air. Without looking at the Celestial Mistress, she said melancholy. "Aiel, you...have come. I am defeated by your divine sword. You must really be

delighted to see me in this wretched state. The prophecy of the Goddess Celestial Alice has finally come to fruition...”

Yi Ping said quietly, “You should really rest first.”

The Goddess Isa was startled, “You...do not blame me?”

She looked at the unconscious Yixian as she muttered, “You should because I have killed your beloved.”

Yi Ping muttered with a heartbreaking sadness, “Yes, I should hate you but you are almost at your end. So even if there is a feud, there is no point pursuing anymore.”

Lele said coldly to the Goddess Isa, “If Sister Xian’Er dies, I will surely cut you to pieces.”

Lie Qing was thinking, “Will you really do it? I doubt very much.”

The Celestial Mistress said coldly, “When has the all-powerful Goddess Isa become so humble?”

The Goddess Isa said quietly, “I pray that you will let me die with some decent honor...”

The Celestial Mistress hummed coldly, “I remember someone who once said to me that she will slice me to pieces and feed my flesh to the dogs? She also says that she will squash me like a fly and defiled me.”

The Goddess Isa lowered her melancholy eyes as she muttered, “Yes, I did say that...”

Yi Ping said quietly to the Celestial Mistress, “I may not know what feuds that you have in the past but I hope that you can be gracious enough to aid her as well. He who seeks equity must do equity. I am sure that you are actually a compassionate person at heart. Or else you will not have given me the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill and even allows the Celeste Wind Maiden to accompany me to save my companions.”

The Celestial Mistress was startled that Yi Ping had actually pleaded to her for the Goddess Isa.

The Goddess Isa was looking at Yi Ping with a curious look as she

thought, “He is actually pleading for a demoness like me?”

The Celestial Mistress looked at the Goddess Isa briefly for a while before saying, “If she doesn’t bother or plot against me in the future, I am fine with it. I am really afraid of her, you know. You have no idea how terrifying a foe that she can be. And I can only do my best. They are injured by the Universal Force and it is not something that can be easily expelled from their bodies.”

Han Lin smiled, “That is my good Mistress.”

The Celestial Mistress ignored her and said to the Goddess Isa, “What do you think?”

The Goddess Isa lifted her eyes as she looked at Yi Ping and the Celestial Mistress before she said weakly, “I...am anything!”

The Celestial Mistress looked into the eyes of the Goddess Isa quietly and was surprised that she could no longer find the arrogant look that were her trademark as she said, “Then swear it.”

The Goddess Isa lifted herself to stand steadily as she supported herself with the Divine Constellation Sword, “I, the Goddess Isa hereby swear solemnly by the eternal heavens above that I will not plot against the Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears for all eternity. I will remember her kindness and grace in my heart always.”

Yi Ping and the rest of the maidens were startled to hear the Goddess Isa addressing the Celestial Mistress as the Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears!

Yi Ping thought curiously, “Aiel the Heavenly Tears? What is her relationship with the Eternal Ice Palace? I have heard the Goddess Isa referring the Heavenly Earth Sword as the Heavenly Tears Divine Sword...”

Han Lin said aloud, “There are no feuds between the two of you in the first place. Why are you so hard with each other in the first place? Just because the Goddess Celestial Alice prophesied that you will be defeated by the Heavenly Tears? Or because of the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?”

The Goddess Isa said weakly as she looked at her, “If I am not wrong, you are the Icy Dragon Maiden? Why are you with her?”

Han Lin smiled, “No one calls me by that name anymore and why shouldn’t I be with her? She is not the one that had annihilated half of my race. Unlike the Goddess Celestial Alice and you, we are also not fascinated by that Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos.”

The Goddess Isa smiled weakly as she looked at Yi Ping...

The Celestial Mistress said gently, “Let me get to work first.”

She began by examining Yixian and the Goddess Isa at the same time. After a while, she lifted and channelled her Inverting Universe Intricate Energies into their bodies!

Immediately, the Goddess Isa and Yixian had some colours on their cheeks!

When Yi Ping saw the vital signs on Yixian’s cheeks, he called out excitedly. “Xian’Er!”

But still there was no respond from her.

The Celestial Mistress said quietly, “Don’t worry. I have temporary protected her vital channels with my Inverting Universe Intricate Energies.”

The Goddess Isa looked at the Celestial Mistress quietly before she muttered, “Thank you...I am so ashamed of myself...”

The Celestial Mistress replied with a tenderly, “What past is the past. I can only do my best for you first. There is no promise that I will be able to do anything.”

The Goddess Isa whispered softly, “But I...I have killed...”

The Celestial Mistress interrupted, “If you really want to repay me then you must recover quickly and aid me in the Stellar Sanctuary.”

The Goddess Isa said in a trembling voice, “I will...I will.”

The Celestial Mistress nodded but she was soon sighing softly, “This is

really difficult. If I still have my Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill, I may still be able to do something about it but...alas..."

The Goddess Isa smiled weakly, "It is alright. Death and life is predestined. I don't blame you if you can't do a thing."

When Yi Ping had heard that she required the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill, he quickly took out the divine pill as he said anxiously to the Celestial Mistress, "I still have it..."

The Celestial Mistress was astonished, "You still have it? You did not consume it yet?"

Yi Ping said quietly, "I know that this divine pill is very precious to you. Unless I have no other choices, I don't want to take it. I was thinking that if I can return alive, I may still have the chance to return it to you."

The Celestial Mistress was stunned at his reply as she looked curiously at him...

Yi Ping was flustered when he had noticed that she was looking at him blankly and he quickly lowered his gaze for he dared not look directly at her.

Lele interrupted coldly, "Hmph! This is great. I have only let him out of my sight for a single day and there are this Celeste Wind Maiden, the Celestial Mistress and Han Lin."

Even though Lele had mentioned only three names but the Goddess Isa, Jing'Er and Yang Min had all shyly lowered their eyes quietly!

Han Lin smiled, "Good sister, are you jealous?"

Lele smiled coldly back at her, "Hmph! Who is your good sister and why should I be jealous? I am just worry for their safety when my other good sisters know about them."

She was of course referring to Ye Yin the Ascension Goddess, Shen Xingyue the Fiery Phoenix, Yu'Er the Eclipse Heaven Goddess, Mei'Er the Axis Heaven Goddess and Lingfeng the Heaviness!

Lele added coldly as she warned Yi Ping, "You can imagine what

Lingfeng will say or do to you. So you have better be prepared for the worst if she knows about this.”

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly...

The Celestial Mistress quickly regained her composure to say, “Then I may be able to do something since you still have the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill.”

Yi Ping quickly placed the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill into her hand.

As their hands touched each other, there was an electrifying touch that caused Yi Ping and the Celestial Mistress to withdraw their hands almost immediately!

Yi Ping was stunned and so was the Celestial Mistress.

The Celestial Mistress quickly regained her composure before anyone else could notice as she said shyly to him, “Do you still have the Fire Kirin Divine Pill?”

Yi Ping nodded as he took out the Fire Kirin Divine Pill but this time he made an effort not to touch her fingers as he handed it over to her, “I still have it.”

The Celestial Mistress smiled shyly at him, “Good! Then now I can really do something.”

Yi Ping asked curiously, “What are you going to do now?”

Youxue was also curious as she asked, “If we can give Sister Xian’Er the Aiel Rejuvenation Pill earlier, we would have given her. The chief cause of concern is the conflicting energies of the Universal Force that are creating havoc within their bodies which is endangering their lives.”

The Celestial Mistress said gently, “The Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill is a negative energy affiliated pill while the Fire Kirin Divine Pill is a positive energy affiliated pill. Therefore I am going to merge these two divine pills together with the Inverting Universe Divine Skill.”

This time even Shi Shi could not keep quiet as she asked curiously, “That is easier said than done. That is not the same as taking two divine

pills at once.”

The Celestial Mistress nodded, “That’s right. That is not easy. But if I can merge these two divine pills as one, I can save the two of them and can even aid Xiao Qian to further her divine practice into a true celestial.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled as she muttered, “I...I can be a golden celestial practitioner?”

The Celestial Mistress nodded at her before walking quietly to the Heavenly Earth Sword as she said tenderly, “Heavenly Tears, it seems that you have chosen a new mistress. If you still remember me, then let me borrow you for a while. I will need the Universal Force that is within you to purge out their conflicting external energies.”

She muttered softly as she looked gently at the transformed Heavenly Tears Divine Sword, “You look so different now. So that is your true form...”

As she reached out to lift the Heavenly Tears, a warm and brilliant white blue aurora shone forth as she laughed softly, “Good that is my beloved Heavenly Tears! You still remember me!”

She turned to wink at Yi Ping, “Remember what you have promised me, alright? Two requests since I am going to save two of them.”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “As long as it is not against any martial code, I will definitely do my best to accede to you...”

The Celestial Mistress laughed softly, “Good! Then my first request to you as a special envoy of the Holy Ascension Sect is to tour the grounds of the Holy Ascension Sect, especially the fabled Golden Ascension Hall.”

Yi Ping almost choked when he had heard her request!

The Celestial Mistress said aloud, “I need some protectors to guard against possible intruders. Who will want to volunteer?”

Immediately Yi Ping, Lele and Yang Min said at the same time. “I will!”

Yunzi, Youxue, Lie Qing, Shi Shi and the Celeste Wind Maiden had also said at the same time, “I will too!”

The Celestial Mistress said, "Xiao Qian, you must remain here and so must Jing'Er."

She turned to say to Yi Ping and Lie Qing, "The two of you must stay behind here too. If I am able to concoct these two divine pills into a new divine pill then the extra dosages may be useful for your internal injuries too. Also I need some of you to be here as a secondary precaution against intruders. That is because I cannot be disturbed during this period or I will only be endangering myself."

Yi Ping nodded and said, "We will await your instructions!"

Lele muttered, "Thank you..."

And she was gone in the next instant!

Youxue and Youxue had also left in the opposite direction!

Shi Shi said to Yang Min, "Sister, I am so happy to see you. Let us accompany each other and chat over there."

Yang Min nodded tearfully, "Good sister, I have never thought that I will see you again..."

And they too, had left the vicinity.

The Celestial Mistress was pondering blankly when Han Lin said unhappily, "Why don't you get it going instead of trying to think of a naming for your newly creation. I only know you too well."

The Celestial Mistress protested immediately, "It is going to be a divine pill. If the naming is wrong, then it will affect its divinity. How can I afford to be careless?"

Han Lin smiled weakly, "Don't forget that you actually took three years to name your Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill when you only asked for three minutes the last time."

Yi Ping was startled when he had heard that as he urged anxiously, "Leave the naming for later. You better begin..."

The Celestial Mistress said coldly to Han Lin, "Why are you here? Go to the outer perimeter and stand guard. Don't let me see you."

Han Lin murmured softly as she walked away, “Yes, my mistress. You are really so petty.”

As she began to walk away, she winked at Yi Ping!

Yi Ping was startled and he quickly looked away!

Lie Qing looked quietly at Yi Ping as she sighed softly...

All of a sudden, Han Lin turned to look at the Celestial Mistress with a wryly smile.

The Celestial Mistress said coolly, “Why aren’t you leaving yet? If you are here, I will surely be distracted!”

Han Lin laughed softly, “My Mistress, don’t forget to strip or your internal energies won’t be able to dissipate smoothly...”

She quickly disappeared as she reminded the Celestial Mistress, “Don’t forget!”

Yi Ping was stunned when he had heard from Han Lin that the Celestial Mistress may be stripping...

At the same time Celestial Mistress had shyly removed her veil as she cursed softly, “Han Lin, I am going to demote you for being disrespectful to your sect protégé leader...”

Lie Qing gasped in astonishment as she saw the face of the Celestial Mistress for the first time as she thought, “She is so beautiful...”

The Celestial Mistress looked quietly at Yi Ping, Lie Qing, Jing’Er, the Goddess Isa and the Celeste Wind Maiden as she warned malicious, “I warn you all. I don’t want to hear anything in the future about what is going to happen today. Now swear it.”

Chapter 130: The Green Dragon Sacred Sword

Yi Ping took a deep breath at the sight of the imposing marble columns of the Heaven's Gate. Even though the entire mountains were shaking violently, the Heaven's Gate did not seem to be affected by it as it stood serenely in the midst of the mayhem from the heavens and the earth.

This was the second time that Yi Ping had approached the Heaven's Gate and he was still in awe of the imposing white columns that lined the mountain sides. And beyond the Heaven's Gate was the stairs of heavens that led to the peak of the majestic Unmoving Mountains where the Holy Ascension Sect was situated!

Han Lin winked at Yi Ping as she asked, "So we are finally here!"

Yi Ping replied, "Yes but getting past it may be a problem."

He looked awkwardly at the Celestial Mistress, Han Lin, Yang Min, Jing'Er, Xiao Qian and the Goddess Isa before he turned to look at Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, Shi Shi, Yunzi and Youxue hoping that they could help him out but they were surprising quiet!

These twelve maidens were all looking affectionately at him and their eyes were full of tenderness!

This was not exactly what Yi Ping had been expecting for this journey after he had reluctantly agreed to take the Celestial Mistress and her entourage to the Holy Ascension Sect. He was expecting a noisy bout to break out anytime given the combative nature of both Lele and Youxue!

But to his utter surprise, Lele and Han Lin seemed to get along extremely well and they were actually very chatty along the way!

And the Celestial Mistress, Jing'Er, Shi Shi, Yang Mi, Yixian, Lie Qing and Lele seemed to get along extremely well!

They seemed to have many things to share and were even exchanging martial pointers on the sly. Even Youxue and Yunzi could not resist the

temptation to participate in their martial pointers exchange!

Only the Goddess Isa and the Celeste Wind Maiden remained aloof along the way.

Yi Ping began to recall the events that had brought all these maidens to the Heaven's Gate of the Holy Ascension Gate...

Yang Min had said shyly to him, "I can't return to the Martial Deviant Clan anymore and I am all alone now. Can I join Shi Shi and you?"

The Goddess Isa said quietly, "I have promised to help Aiel in the Stellar Sanctuary and I have yet to repay her for saving my life."

Xiao Qian the Celeste Wind Maiden said to him, "It is the duty of the Celestial Priestess to protect our Celestial Mistress."

Han Lin said wryly, "There are many lecherous men around, you must know. She doesn't even know how to protect herself."

Jing'Er asked quietly, "Can I join as well?"

The Celestial Mistress replied unhappily, "Then who will take care of my sect if all my important sect leaders decide to go to the tiger den? You must know that I am not going there to play."

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coldly to the Celestial Mistress, "Oh really? Then why are you going there for?"

The Celestial Mistress replied exasperatedly, "Qian'Er! You! Who just help you to become a golden practitioner?"

The Celeste Wind Maiden replied coldly, "That is another matter. I will repay you by protecting you."

Han Lin had already issued several commands to the protégés of the Aiel Sect, "Wait here. If the other clans want to enter the Stellar Sanctuary, do not stop them from doing so. However, I want all of you to wait patiently for us for at least three months. If there is no news from us in three months' time, go back to the Celestial Aiel Sect."

The Celestial Mistress protested weakly, "Now who is the Celestial Mistress of the Celestial Aiel sect? How dare you make such callous

decisions without first consulting me? Who says you can come with me?"

Han Lin laughed softly, "I am afraid that you will soon regret not having our company. Later, don't you run to me like a crybaby requesting for aid from the company of wolves!"

The Celestial Mistress exclaimed confidently, "I won't for sure. This, you really do not have to worry for me."

Han Lin laughed softly, "Oh really? Very well then, Jing'Er, Xiao Qian. Let's us bid our Celestial Mistress good bye and good luck!"

Xiao Qian started to walk away as she said coolly, "Good luck then, Mistress."

The Celestial Mistress was startled as she looked panicky at Xiao Qian, Han Lin, Yi Ping, Yixian and the Goddess Isa, "Xiao Qian, you are really going? We have come together..."

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked at her coldly, "I didn't want to come here in the first place. Who is the one begging me to come with you? Who is the one that says without my intimidating presence around you, it will be hard for you to hold the fort against the Mad Conqueror and the rest of the celestial clans? Oh well since you don't need me at the Holy Ascension Sect with you anymore, I shall return home with my followers first."

Immediately all the Aiel Protégés of the Black Faction began to giggle among themselves!

Everyone knew that the Black Faction led by the Celeste Wind Maiden was the most powerful faction within the Celestial Aiel Sect and that the Celeste Wind Maiden was the most skilled fighter in the sect!

Han Lin clapped her hands happily, "Good sister! I am so happy to have your company. Jing'Er and Xiao Qian, we have finally got rid of our pestering Mistress for some time..."

The Celestial Mistress raised her alluring eyebrows and looked piercing at them through her veil as she pretended to be angry, "I order all of you to follow me and that is final. Any protests will be a violation of the sect

rules and will be subjected to the most stringent punishments for disobeying the Celestial Mistress!”

Han Lin groaned softly, “You are so unreasonable...”

Yi Ping wondered as he looked discreetly at the Celestial Mistress, “Who is she really?”

Even Yixian was thinking the same, “She is really not Yichi? She really looks like her. If she is not Yichi, how did she know where my secret martial accupoint? Only my protégé mistress and Yichi know of it. Am I thinking too much?”

The martial accupoint of a martial practitioner was their most secret accupoint channel which was also known as the factual death and life channels. Hitting the death channel of a martial practitioner could render a martial practitioner powerless. Knowing the life channel of a martial practitioner could hasten recovery. However, no one was willing to reveal their factual martial channel to anyone.

Yixian had almost died in the past due to her haste to master the divine skills of the Eternal Ice Palace and therefore she had entrusted her factual martial channel to Yichi.

Lie Qing on the hand was grateful to the Celestial Mistress for treating her injuries but she was also secretly wary of her true intentions but at the same time she was delighted. “I have finally met a worthy opponent to match my wits. She is really such a good actress.”

After she had met Yi Ping and Youxue, Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress had become more docile. That was because she had met her match in Youxue. However, she had her way with Yi Ping unlike Youxue. That was only because Youxue was too inexperienced in the affairs of the heart.

But now her fighting spirit was aroused as she thought, “No matter how good a liar this Celestial Mistress is, I am going to dig her secrets out. And this Han Lin and Goddess Isa as well. Or else I am not the Heavenly Temptress!”

Yi Ping had kept quiet along the way as he was too awkward to say

anything as he tried to force himself not to remember what had happened earlier when the Celestial Mistress had undressed herself and everyone to treat their injuries.

At the same time his heart grew heavier as he approached the Holy Ascension Sect. He was in a dilemma to explain to Lingfeng, Ye Yin, Shen Xingyue, Yu'Er and Mei'Er later...

His thoughts were soon interrupted by the approaching sight of some two hundred Ascendant Protégés of the Holy Ascension Sect!

But like the first time, he was stopped by Feng Mantian, Luo Wei and Wu Han again!

This time they were extremely respectable and so were the ascendant protégés that were behind them which numbered some two hundreds. It was obvious that the Holy Ascension Sect was on high alert as the number of obvious guards was ten times greater than previously!

However Yi Ping knew that there were still many more hidden fighters that lie in wait along the stairs of heavens!

Feng Mantian quickly apologized and he looked somewhat disconcerted, "Master Yi Ping, who are they?"

He also said to Yunzi, "Our respects to the Protégé Master of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan!"

He had naturally recognized Lie Qing, Lele, Shi Shi, Yixian, Youxue and Yunzi.

But for the extraordinary appealing and unfamiliar maidens that were also with Yi Ping, he did not recognize who they were. He was immediately wary of them though for their states of divinities were extremely imposing!

The unfamiliar maidens were of course the Celestial Mistress, Han Lin, Jing'Er, Yang Min, Xiao Qian the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Goddess Isa!

Immediately, the Celestial Mistress, Han Lin, Jing'Er, Yang Min and the

Celeste Wind Maiden were all startled at the same time as they looked at Yunzi!

It was because they did not know that this maiden was actually the Protégé Master of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan, one of the most powerful celestial clans in the Celestial Realm!

Yi Ping said awkwardly, "They...they are my friends. Brother Feng, can you let them pass?"

Yunzi said as well, "They are our friends."

Feng Mantian had already noticed that Shi Shi the Stellar Heaven Fairy was carrying a divine sword on her return trip and was slightly startled. What more, two of the unfamiliar maidens were also carrying a divine sword too!

Divine swords were extremely rare in the Celestial Realm and therefore it was a surprise to see two more unknown celestial practitioners with it!

Like Feng Mantian, Luo Wei and Wu Han were also highly attained golden celestial practitioners that could detect the presence of a hidden or unsheathed divine weapon especially in such a close proximity. And they were equally startled by it and began to wonder who the two golden celestial practitioners were!

Feng Mantian muttered at the sight of these beautiful maidens and he was questioning if he was dreaming as he asked, "Maybe Master Yi Ping can introduce your friends to us first? We cannot allow any unorthodox or heretic sect protégés through the Heaven's Gate."

Yang Min looked quietly at Jing'Er who in turn was looking at the Celestial Mistress and Han Lin.

Lele added in jest, "You don't trust the Lord of the Tranquil City or the Protégé Master of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan?"

Lie Qing laughed softly as she stroked her braided hair slowly, "Maybe he just want to acquaint with them."

The Celestial Mistress said nothing while Han Lin smiled amicably at

Feng Mantian before saying, “Do we look like dark celestial practitioners to you?”

Feng Mantian smiled weakly as he looked at the veiled Celestial Mistress. Even though she was veiled but there was no denying that she was really an appealing maiden as he eyed her with an intimate look!

Feng Mantian was not the only one that was staring at these maidens. Virtually all the two hundred protégés of the Holy Ascension Sect were all staring at them. No matter who their dream goddess looked like in their innermost heart, they could find in these maidens!

The twelve maidens were all extremely moving and the sight of them were so wondrous that everyone was envy of Yi Ping who remained oblivious of the attention that he was getting!

Just as Feng Mantian was about to probe further, a long beard celestial had suddenly leapt over him with a startling speed!

It was Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage!

Immediately Feng Mantian, Wu Han and Luo Wei took the lead to pay their respects, “Our respects to the Supreme Celestial...”

But Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage quickly raised his right hand to silence them.

He was flustered as he lifted his trembling finger at the Celestial Mistress, “Xiaoci, is that really you? You are still around? I have always thought you are dead...”

He had known her as the first Grand Protégé Mistress and founder of the Melody Palace. Like the Lord Supreme and himself, he had known her as an Ancient Celestial.

Han Lin smiled at the Celestial Mistress, “So Xiaoci is your real name?”

The Celestial Mistress said quietly, “Yes, it is me.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage pointed a finger at the Celeste Wind Maiden as he shouted angrily, “It is you!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden hummed coldly, “So we met again.”

Many years ago, Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and the Celeste Wind Maiden had a bitter fight. It was a titanic fight between the old and new celestial fighters. Even though that fight was a draw, Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage had nearly died from that fight and that event had propelled the Celestial Aiel Sect as a major celestial clan!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said angrily to the Celeste Wind Maiden, "Release Xiaoci immediately!"

He quickly turned to say to Yi Ping, "Do you know who she is? You have actually brought an enemy back to the Holy Ascension Sect. She is none other than the Celeste Wind Maiden of the Celestial Aiel Sect!"

Yi Ping quickly bowed respectfully to say, "Senior, I can explain..."

The Goddess Isa smiled coldly as she interrupted Yi Ping, "Who is this mad man?"

She did not have the intention to be involved in this mundane affair but when she had seen how Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage had raised his voice at Yi Ping, she could not resist a sneer!

Yi Ping was startled. As he was afraid of what the Goddess Isa may do after witnessing her martial skills earlier, he quickly said to her. "He is not a bad guy..."

The Goddess Isa looked at Yi Ping shyly as she muttered softly, "Oh?"

She quickly said, "You are already too respectful to him by addressing him as a Senior. I don't think he is fit enough to even carry your shoes, humph!"

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage stared at her but he was quickly taken aback when he could not see past her state of divinity as he stammered, "You are? You are not a golden celestial practitioner. You are an Ancient Celestial? No, that is impossible. Why is that I have never seen you before?"

At the same time, he was staring at her scabbard which contained her divine sword...

He had suddenly noticed that like Yi Ping, this golden hair heavenly maiden was also carrying an extraordinary divine sword and his curiosity was immediately aroused by the sword divine aura!

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, "You are not fit to address me."

Feng Mantian immediately shouted, "Insolent! How dare you be rude to the Supreme Celestial!"

The Goddess Isa lifted her eyes to say, "So?"

The Celestial Mistress said quietly, "He is a friend..."

The Goddess Isa looked sharply at Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and said coldly, "If I am not injured, I will surely teach you a lesson."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said aloud, "Xiaoci, you don't have to be afraid of them. In fact, they are courting their own deaths by coming here!"

The Celestial Mistress looked intently at Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage as her golden eyes flicker a deep golden and green, "You must be mistaken. I am not under anyone threat. In fact, I am the Celestial Mistress of the Celestial Aiel Sect."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and all the Ascendant Protégés were stunned!

Feng Mantian stammered out as he readied a combat stance, "The Celestial Mistress of the Celestial Aiel Sect is here?"

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said quickly, "Rubbish! Do you know who she is? She is the founder of the Melody Palace. The Melody Palace is one of the three major orthodox celestial clans in the lower realm!"

He quickly turned to the Celestial Mistress to say gently to her, "I know that it is not true. Now tell me who is blackmailing you and I will settle the score with him. I will surely protect you."

The Goddess Isa tapped her foot gently as she said wryly, "Do you really think that you are good enough to protect her? Even if you are an Ancient Celestial of the blue-red level, I can still kick your butt."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage hummed coldly, “So you are the one that is blackmailing Xiaoci! Stop boasting. I am indeed an Ancient Celestial of the blue-red level and with my Green Dragon Sacred Sword, there are only just a handful of opponents that can fight me one to one! The one that is kicking your butt is me!”

At the mention of the Green Dragon Sacred Sword, Han Lin had suddenly lost her smiling countenance and had turned pale...

The Celeste Wind Maiden had also interrupted into the conversation as she said coldly, “Oh really? You can’t even defeat me back then.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said angrily, “That is because I am foolish enough to believe your ruse back then! But this time, I won’t be merciful anymore!”

Yi Ping immediately said solemnly, “Senior, it is all a misunderstanding. Can we talk it over first? If they really have ill-intentions then they would have brought many more here, am I right to say so?”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said angrily, “Then why are they here for?”

Yi Ping said, “That is because the Celestial Mistress says she wants to tour the Holy Ascension Sect...”

All of a sudden Yi Ping had realized that he had said something wrong; he had suddenly realized how ridiculous her request was. Now that he had said it aloud, he had realized that no one could possibly believe him. The Holy Ascension Sect was not a place for anyone to go and come as they pleased!

Feng Mantian said angrily, “Master Yi Ping. The Holy Ascension Sect is not a place for dark practitioners to come and go as they please! They are only here to steal the martial and celestial secrets of the Holy Ascension Sect!”

Luo Wei said, “Therefore, we must not allow them to pass!”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage pointed at the Goddess Isa, “I say that this demoness here must be the real Celestial Mistress. My sixth sense

has always been sharp!”

The Celestial Mistress closed her eyes before heaving a soft sigh, “That is enough already. I am indeed the Celestial Mistress. I have many different identities and the person that you know is just one of my many identities.”

She looked quietly at Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage for a moment before saying gently to him, “Old friend, we have come in peace. Can you allow us to pass? Maybe together, we can finally overcome the Stellar Sanctuary together.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was stunned as he stammered, “Are you...really the Celestial Mistress?”

But before the Celestial Mistress could reply him, Han Lin had stepped forward between them and her golden eyes were filled with killing intent!

Yi Ping was startled at her sudden transformation as he asked, “Maiden Han Lin, what is wrong?”

Even the Celestial Mistress, Jing’Er and the Celeste Wind Maiden were stunned at her sudden transformation as they had never seen her in this manner before!

Han Lin ignored Yi Ping as she said melancholy, “Surrender the Green Dragon Sacred Sword to me immediately. This divine sword does not belong to you but to my clan!”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage hummed coldly, “Fat chance!”

The Goddess Isa smiled coldly as she used her Divine Whispering Skill to whisper quietly in Yi Ping’s ears, “I suggest that we all steer clear of them immediately. The Icy Dragon Maiden is finally going to awaken soon.”

Yi Ping was startled as he looked at the Goddess Isa and at Han Lin...

The Celestial Mistress said sternly, “Han Lin! Don’t forget what you have promised me!”

Chapter 131: The Two Ascendant Custodians

In three days' time!

In three days' time the iron sealed gate of the Stellar Sanctuary would finally open. It was a celestial event that was highly anticipated by all the celestials in the Celestial Realm!

This celestial event was so rare that it would not happen again for the next few centuries!

Most of the celestial practitioners were surprised that this time only the Stellar Sanctuary had made its appearance. It was because there was never a time when the Astronomic Stellar Formation had failed to appear with the Stellar Sanctuary.

The celestial practitioners were stumbled; it was because none of their calculations could figure out the real reason why the Astronomic Stellar Formation did not appear this time!

Because the Astronomic Stellar Formation had failed to appear, it created a panic among many of the celestial practitioners who feared that this may also be the last time that the Stellar Sanctuary would descend from the Immortal Realm.

It was not only the orthodox, unorthodox and the heretic celestials that were coming to unravel the mysteries of the Stellar Sanctuary. Many of the renegade celestials that were living in solitary near the boundaries of the First Heaven of the Celestial Realm were also secretly making their way to the Stellar Sanctuary!

But Yi Ping had a lot more to worry than the Stellar Sanctuary at the moment!

It was because Han Lin had already stepped forward in a threatening manner and she seemed to have lost her reasoning!

The Celestial Mistress said sternly to Han Lin again, "Step back

immediately!”

Jing’Er urged panicky, “Sister Han Lin, this isn’t like you at all...”

The Goddess Isa whispered again to Yi Ping, “Yi Ping, please step back. A treacherous fight is going to start soon.”

But Yi Ping was not paying heed as he had immediately stepped forward tried to ask gently, “Maiden Han Lin, what is wrong?”

Lele was also startled. Along the way, she had found solace in Han Lin and they were particular close. It was because Lele was actually a lonely young maiden who spent much of her time in loneliness. That was why she was a constant attention seeker.

And when she had met Han Lin, she had found out that she was also particular chatty and her jovial nature was not an act. She was exactly like Lele. But behind her jovial mask was a sense of extreme loneliness that no one could really understand.

That was why they had clicked so well and their friendship was immediately!

It was because they had both experienced extreme loneliness!

Lele finally felt like she had found a close friend but today she was going to lose a good friend!

Lele asked, “Han Lin?”

Han Lin said coldly, “Lele, will you help me? I am going to cleanse this place...”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage interrupted coldly as he raised his hand, “Maiden, you are too insolent. Do you think that you or the whole lot of you can wipe out all the celestial practitioners that are in this place?”

Lele had already moved quietly beside Han Lin in an astonishing display of her swiftness movement ability!

Yi Ping was startled, “Lele? Even you...”

Lele’s eyes were serene as she said quietly, “I can’t do that. I can’t leave

her all alone. I am willing to fight for a friend. Whatever the reason may be, this is not important to me. It is because I trust my friend.”

Yixian said weakly, “Lele, you can’t possibly defeat him.”

Lele laughed softly as she dismantled the blade of her scythe into two crescent swords, “Sister Xian’Er, please let me try. This is my fight.”

Han Lin smiled weakly, “Thank you Lele...”

Youxue, Jing’Er, Yunzi and Shi Shi were also shaking their heads in disapproval!

The Celestial Mistress said sternly, “Xiao Qian, stop Han Lin!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said quietly, “Han Lin, listen to us first!”

But Han Lin had turned toward the Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage to say, “I repeat. Surrender the Green Dragon Sacred Sword and I will back off. Or else don’t blame me for being impolite!”

Yi Ping was panicky. It was because no one else other than him knew of Lele’s secret Crescent Swords Technique. When she had decided to use her crescent swords, it could mean that there was no retreating for her anymore as her Crescent Swords Technique was an all-out offensive sword technique!

Just as Yi Ping stepped between Han Lin and Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, there was a flash of grey as a man in grey robe had suddenly appeared in front of Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and Han Lin, startling them!

This man was exceptional handsome and had golden eyes but his hair was completely white!

He clapped his silver fan before saying to Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, “Old friend, stay your hand.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was startled, “Old friend, why are you here? You never like to meet people...”

Yi Ping had never seen this man before but one thing was for sure; his state of divinity was on par with Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage!

Even the Goddess Isa was looking at the newcomer with interest!

Feng Mantian, Luo Wei and Wu Han immediately paid their utmost respect to him, “Reverend Sacred Sage...”

From the looks of their expressions, they were extremely respectful to him!

It seemed to everyone that this Reverend Sacred Sage was not an ordinary celestial practitioner!

Indeed!

Even though this Reverend Sacred Sage may not be a Supreme Celestial but he was one of the two Ascendant Custodians of the Holy Ascension Sect and his martial level was on par with the Lord Supreme!

This Reverend Sacred Sage was a mystery even in the Holy Ascension Sect and was one of the eight original founders of the Holy Ascension Sect in the Celestial Realm. He had only recently returned to the Holy Ascension Sect after a long absence.

Reverend Sacred Sage was looking at Han Lin as he said gently, “You are well?”

Han Lin covered her mouth as she gasped, “Brother Chu! Brother Chu... you are still alive...I thought, I thought...”

Reverend Sacred Sage nodded gently, “Yes. I am equally surprise to see you too. How are you throughout all these years?”

Han Lin pointed at the Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage with trembling finger, “He has the Green Dragon...”

Reverend Sacred Sage said nonchalantly, “I know. I am the one that has given him the Green Dragon.”

Han Lin was stunned, “You...what? Do you know...”

Reverend Sacred Sage said, “Our clan is no more. We should spend the time further our enlightenment instead of doing useless things.”

He pointed at the Stellar Sanctuary that was floating splendidly in the

midst of the dark heavens and were surrounded by brilliant lightning storms, “We should all find a way to breach the invincible of the Stellar Sanctuary and ascend to the Gods’ Realm. The Gods’ Realm or the Immortal Realm as it is known is our ultimate goal!”

Han Lin staggered backward as her voice grew coarse, “That is our goal?”

She laughed softly as she held back her tears, “Do you know how dangerous the Stellar Sanctuary is? And so what if we have ascended the Stellar Sanctuary? Have you wondered if we are wanted there?”

Reverend Sacred Sage said quietly, “That is not my concern now.”

He looked quietly at the Goddess Isa and the Celestial Mistress, “If we stay here for too long, we will all going to die eventually from our heavenly tribulations. It is the goal of all the celestial practitioners to be a true immortal practitioner eventually. We don’t have much of a choice and is like a moth that is drawn to the burning flame.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage nodded as he looked at the Celestial Mistress, “Xiaoci, why is that we have to be on opposite sides...alas! Go! This is not a place for you to come!”

“Since they are here, let them come.” A hegemony voice thundered from the stairs of heavens and shook the surroundings with his Thousand Mile Resonate Divine Skill. It was the echoes of the Lord Supreme!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said aloud, “But they are dark celestial practitioners...”

“Half of the celestial clans that are here have dark celestial practitioners within their ranks. It doesn’t matter at all if we have a few more dark celestial practitioners that are joining us. And moreover...” the echoes of the Lord Supreme resonated aloud.

There was a pause before the Lord Supreme continued, “And moreover, we ought to welcome the Sagess Ai back.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was startled and so were all the other Ascendant Protégés except for the Reverend Sacred Sage!

The Sagess Ai was one of the two Ascendant Custodians and also one of the eight co-founders of the Holy Ascension Sect in the Celestial Realm!

He asked, "The Sagess Ai is here?!"

Reverend Sacred Sage sighed softly as he smiled at the Celestial Mistress, "You didn't know she is the Sagess Ai? You are talking to her all this while and you seem to know her quite well too."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was stunned as he stammered, "Xiaoci, is that true?"

The Celestial Mistress raised her pretty eyebrows as she said quietly, "Yes, I am the Sagess Ai. I have almost forgotten about it."

Even Han Lin, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Jing'Er, the Stellar Heaven Fairy and Yang Mi were all equally stunned at this proclamation!

The Celestial Mistress was actually the Sagess Ai, one of the seven most powerful ancient celestial fighters!

The Celeste Wind Maiden said weakly, "That is such a surprise coming from our mistress. No wonder she dares to come here alone."

Shi Shi the Stellar Heavenly Fairy was taken aback as she thought, "That is impossible. She is actually the Sagess Ai! She is as legendary as the Heaveness..."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage was muttering, "Xiaoci is the Sagess Ai? That is impossible..."

Even Feng Mantian, Wu Han and Luo Wei were looking at the Celestial Mistress with stunned silence as they thought, "She is the Sagess Ai? Her rank within the Holy Ascension Sect is even higher than the Supreme Celestials! Within a span of a week, two of the Ascendant Custodians have returned. This is something that has never happened before!"

When Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage had ascended to the Celestial Realm, the Celestial Ascension Sect had already been established by the Lord Supreme and seven other ancient celestials.

Naturally he did not know that the friend that he had known as Song

Xiaoci and who was also the Grand Matriarch of the Melody Palace in the lower Realm was the same Sagess Ai that had aided the Lord Supreme to establish the celestial Ascension Sect.

The Celestial Mistress said quietly as she stole a glance at the Goddess Isa, “That is a long story. I am forced to hide my identity because I have offended someone who I shouldn’t offend.”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage quickly said, “Who is he? Tell me. I will help you to settle the score with him!”

The Celestial Mistress lowered her face as she said softly, “If I tell you that not even the top seven celestial fighters in our time are a match for my nemesis. Will you believe me?”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage smiled bitterly, “I don’t believe.”

The Celestial Mistress sighed softly as she secretly looked at the Goddess Isa, “I don’t believe either till I see it with my own eyes.”

The Goddess Isa simply shrugged her shoulders and was observing Yi Ping.

YI Ping may not be very smart but he knew that the Celestial Mistress was referring to the Goddess Isa. Even though the Translucent Emptiness was a skill that could mask his emotions but it was not a skill that could hide his curiosity or intentions. So he stole a glance at the Goddess Isa and was quickly flustered to notice that she was also looking shyly in his direction!

He was startled and quickly looked away!

At the same time the Celestial Mistress said, “What are we waiting for? The Lord Supreme has invited us inside and it will be rude to decline his invitation, right?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden whispered, “You got a lot of explaining to do to us later. All these years we have been fighting against the celestial orthodox clans and you are in fact, one of them!”

The Celestial Mistress said gently to her and to everyone, “I will.”

She closed her eyes as she took a deep breath before muttering, "It seems that my solitary meditation is going to end soon."

She composed herself to say to Yi Ping, "Yi Ping, can you lead the way for us?"

When Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage heard that, he quickly said. "Xiaoci, let me lead the way instead. I am more familiar with this place. With me around, you won't get lost and no one will bother you."

Yi Ping said as he bowed with his hands respectfully, "Then may Old Senior lead the way for us."

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage laughed, "Of course, of course!"

He began to stroke his long beard as he said, "Xiaoci, do you know that you are here in a nick of time? Tonight we will draw the lots to enter the Stellar Sanctuary!"

The Celestial Mistress asked, "Draw lots for the Stellar Sanctuary? For?"

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage replied, "That is right. In three more days' time, the sealed gates of the Stellar Sanctuary will finally be opened. To prevent a pandemonium from breaking out, all the celestial clans will draw a lot in advance for each of the twenty-four gates of the Stellar Sanctuary. This is to ensure that all the most powerful celestial clans do not congregate together to ensure fairness. After the lots are drawn, all the celestial clans will set off immediately for the designated gate that they had drawn."

He sighed softly, "A nasty fight may still break out at the Stellar Sanctuary. There are hundreds of celestial clans that are led by the Martial Deviant Clan and the Celestial Aiel Sect who will attempt to stop us. They too, will be rushing into the Stellar Sanctuary. No one really knows what is going to happen in three days' time."

The Celestial Mistress nodded, "Even for the Celestial Aiel Sect, it is hard to control the celestial clans that are under our influence once the sealed gates of the Stellar Sanctuary are opened."

Han Lin asked jovially, "Of course it will be difficult. There are no

directions at all from you. Your edict for the celestial clans that are under our sphere of influence is just a mad rush for the Stellar Sanctuary. You don't even have any idea or plan which gate they will enter except for the nearest."

It seemed that Han Lin had once again regained her jovial self!

The Celestial Mistress growled softly, "You didn't pay any attention, am I right? I have tasked the Lord Lu Zhongli of the Lofty Sword Sect to plan the expedition on behalf of the Celestial Aiel Sect..."

Han Lin injected, "Then do you know how many celestial clans and how many celestial practitioners that have accompanied us on this trip?"

The Celestial Mistress answered weakly, "How many?"

Han Lin smiled weakly, "I am asking you and you are asking me?"

The Celestial Mistress replied with a flush, "I...really do not know!"

Han Lin replied, "Three hundred and thirty-three celestial clans. Twenty-two thousands and sixty celestial practitioners!"

When the number of celestial clans that had accompanied the Celestial Aiel Sect was announced, almost all the Ascendant Protégés were startled!

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage gasped, "That many?!"

That was because the Holy Ascension Sect had received a secret estimate on the number of celestial practitioners that were on the side of the Celestial Aiel Sect as around ten thousand celestial practitioners!

Han Lin smiled, "And of course we also know that there are ten thousand celestial practitioners that are in the Holy Ascension Sect right now."

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage looked at Han Lin with a sense of realization, "I see now! There is a spy here or else you won't be able to know our true strength so well."

The Celestial Mistress kicked Han Lin lightly, "You are too talkative."

Han Lin laughed softly, "Does it matter? Shall I call you the Sagess Ai or

the Goddess...”

The Celestial Mistress quickly said, “Time is short. Let us find some place to talk first.”

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage nodded as he said aloud, “Feng Mantian, Wu Han, Luo Wei! You have heard the Lord Supreme? Put away all your swords and let them pass!”

Wu Han panicky shouted, “Put away all your swords! It is the Sagess Ai and her friends!”

Luo Wei added too, “Quickly step aside and pay your respects to the Sagess Ai!”

Immediately the two hundred Ascendant Protégés were all shouting, “Our respects to the Sagess Ai! Our respects to the Ascendant Custodian!”

Feng Mantian was also bowing respectfully to the Celestial Mistress as he stepped aside, “Our respect to the Sagess Ai, welcome back...”

Lele yawned softly, “That should be the way from the start, am I right to say so?”

She turned to Han Lin to say, “Han Lin, who is he? You seem very close to him. Why didn’t you introduce him to us?”

She was referring of course to the Reverend Sacred Sage.

Han Lin smiled weakly, “He is my Protégé Brother Chu Mingfan.”

Reverend Sacred Sage laughed heartily, “I am Chu Mingfan. If maiden can honor me with your name, I will certainly consider today as my lucky day!”

Lele laughed softly, “I am the Joyful Goddess. You can call me Lele if you want to.”

Reverend Sacred Sage clapped his fan as he praised her, “Good name, beautiful name!”

Yi Ping was unhappy when he saw how the Reverend Sacred Sage was making advances to Lele so he said, “I am Yi Ping and she is my lady

consort.”

He was discreetly warning him not to have any funny ideas with Lele!

Even Lie Qing was saying coldly to Reverend Sacred Sage, “I warn you. Stay away from her or else I will be nasty to you.”

Lele however was delighted with the attention that she was getting from Yi Ping that she said, “He is Han Lin’s protégé brother. What is wrong with you people?”

Just when Lie Qing was about to say something, there was a familiar shout from the stairs of heaven. “Ai, is that you?”

Everyone was startled and turned to the direction of the shout to see the Universal Old Man rushing down the stairs with a startling speed!

All of a sudden the Celestial Mistress began to turn pale as she muttered, “I think my worst nightmare has come even before I have drawn the lots for the Stellar Sanctuary...”

Yi Ping was surprised that his protégé master the Universal Old Man was acquainted with the Celestial Mistress.

The Universal Old Man laughed heartily as he looked at the Celestial Mistress, “Ai, is that you? When I have heard your name being mention by the Lord Supreme, I couldn’t believe my ears and rush down to have a look. It is really you! I have thought that you are gone for good. It has been so many years...”

The Celestial Mistress put her slender hand over her veil as she looked at the Universal Old Man, “You must be mistaken. I do not know you.”

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage asked, “Xiaoci, you know him?”

The Celestial Mistress appeared to be smiling weakly from behind her veil, “No, I don’t. Really. Who are you, seriously?”

Han Lin was groaning softly. It was because from the startled expressions of the Celestial Mistress, it was obvious that she was lying!

Even Lie Qing was sighing softly as she thought, “Did I praise her lying skills a little too quickly?”

The Universal Old Man was stammering feebly, “I...I...you still can’t forgive me?”

The Celestial Mistress hummed coldly as she said to Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage, “Let’s go. What are we waiting for? My escorts and I are in need of a good bath first. I certainly don’t want to present my ugly side to the Lord Supreme or to the other celestials later.”

“Hah! Hahaha!” The laughing echoes of the Lord Supreme thundered resonantly, “I certainly won’t mind. The Sagess Ai is a renowned beauty in the Celestial Realm. Do you suppose we can talk first? I am really surprise that you are the Celestial Mistress of the Celestial Aiel Sect. Are we still on the same side or are we foes? Since you have the courage to come here, surely you have the courage to meet me alone? ”

Han Lin took a quick look at the Reverend Sacred Sage before she whispered to the Celestial Mistress, “Mistress, it may be a trap.”

The Celestial Mistress shook her head as she lifted her voice to say resoundingly to the Lord Supreme, “Why should I be afraid?”

The Lord Supreme thundered, “Good!”

The Universal Old Man murmured, “That Lord Supreme is really lazy. He can’t be bothered to even show his face. Ai, just ignore him.”

Yi Ping said, “Master, we are guests in this place. I think it is best not to speak ill of others...”

The Universal Old Man laughed as he patted Yi Ping on his shoulder, “Don’t worry. He can’t hear me at all. It is one thing to use the Thousand Mile Resonate Divine Skill to convey yourself but if the listeners do not have the internal strength to shout back then he can’t pick our voices.”

Youxue said coldly, “That may be true but you just badmouth the Lord Supreme in front of two hundreds of his clan protégés. Surely they are all not deaf and mute.”

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage said to everyone, “Come with me.”

He turned to the Universal Old Man, “The Lord Supreme has requested

to speak to the Sagess Ai first. I suggest that you return to your quarter first.”

The Universal Old Man was about to protest when the Celeste Wind Maiden had stepped in to say coldly, “You should go.”

The Universal Old Man appraised the Celeste Wind Maiden with caution as he said, “Good sword that you have with you. I am really an old friend of the Sagess Ai...”

All of a sudden he had frozen when he had caught sight of a golden hair maiden who was standing stately behind Yi Ping. In his haste and excitement, he had forgotten to be mindful of the others.

Now that he had noticed her, he was stunned at the sight of her stately demeanor and her unfathomable level of divinity!

He was stumped when he blinked his eyes, “Ping’Er, who is she?”

Yi Ping stammered, “She...”

But before Yi Ping could continue further, the Goddess Isa smiled shyly with a deep flush, “Who I am is not important. Why I am here is more important for I am here to kill an unfaithful man.”

Yi Ping first reaction was to ask, “Who?”

Chapter 132: Priestesses of the Goddess Theocracy

Shortly after Yi Ping and his group had ascended the stairs of heavens, they were all taken to their respective guest chambers for attentive care.

The Holy Ascension Sect had always been extremely strict in segregating the opposite sexes within its grounds.

In the grounds of the Holy Ascension Sect, there was a White Verdant Palace. It was the meditating ground for the majority of the female Ascendant Protégés and forbidden to men. The White Verdant Palace was also one of the most beautiful places in the Celestial Realm with many stunning gardens and grandeur palaces.

In a deserted garden courtyard of the inner sanctuary of the Holy Ascension Sect, Yi Ping was lying on top of a tree branch as he looked at the dark dome shape of the Stellar Sanctuary that was enveloped by circular purple lightning in the dark heavens as thunders broke out almost endlessly.

The courtyard was quieter than usual.

It was because most of the celestial practitioners had already gathered or making their way to the Golden Ascension Hall.

The lots for the Stellar Sanctuary would commence in two hour time!

He was unconcerned even when an accidental lightning bolt had strike a nearby tree and set it into flames nor was he bothered by the winds and the incessant small rains.

It was because his heart was heavy with many things!

He muttered, "Xian'Er, Qing'Er...with just three days left to go before the Stellar Sanctuary is opened, I hope that you can recuperate well first."

Unlike Yixian, the Goddess Isa, Lie Qing and Jing'Er, Yi Ping had fully recovered from his internal injuries and he was worried that they would want to enter the perilous Stellar Sanctuary at which few celestial

practitioners would return!

Even the Celestial Mistress was stunned at the speed of his recovery. It was because nothing could hasten the recovery of internal injuries but Yi Ping was an exception!

She had accidentally let slip with a soft whisper, “Weird, why is that you have the blood of the Kirin in your veins? It is exactly the same as Han Lin...Is that the reason why my divine pill is working particularly effective on him? Because part of it consists of the Fire Kirin Divine Pill?”

Yi Ping pondered quietly, “Han Lin has also accidentally consumed the Fire Kirin Divine Pill or is poisoned by the blood of the Kirin?”

The Goddess Isa seemed to have known him from somewhere and she was now under the impression that he had ended the life of the Goddess Celestial Alice. What enmity did the Goddess Isa and the Goddess Celestial Alice had with each other?

He adjusted his straw hat as he looked intently at the Stellar Sanctuary. He could not forget the mysterious Maiden Ziyan that he had encountered in the Astronomic Stellar Formation...

“Who is she?”

“Is she really the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

“Why is she in the Astronomic Stellar Formation?”

“Why did she ask me to go to the Stellar Sanctuary?”

“Why did she leave just like this?”

He began to recall her exact words, “Ziyan is not my real name. I am indeed the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Ninth Heavens, the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Three Known Realms and in the lower realm, I am known as the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Seven Stars. You need not guess further; the Celestial Alice is indeed named after me and I am her true mistress until I have sealed her.”

“Maybe she is only pretending to be the Goddess Celestial Alice because she had overheard us?”

He muttered, "But if she is really the Goddess Celestial Alice, why did she want to take her own life?"

Once again he seemed to have heard her gentle voice again, "If you want to find me, you must ascend the Stellar Sanctuary or look for me in the Immortal Realm of the Ninth Heavens. I will be at the Eternal City that is beyond time reckoning. You must come..."

He muttered, "Where is this Eternal City?"

All of a sudden he had a spinning headache as he muttered, "Dragon Maiden Alice...Icy Dragon Maiden...Green Dragon Sacred Sword...Ziyan... Han Lin..."

All of a sudden Yi Ping frozen in place; it was because he had heard a couple of soft steps that was walking in his direction!

The footsteps were extremely light and as though they were afraid of being heard.

But Yi Ping's hearing was now extremely sharp after he had just recovered.

Two beautiful maidens in grey robes were now standing quietly in the courtyard. It seemed that they were waiting for someone.

One of the maidens wore a beautiful fan like headwear. She was dressed in a priestess robe but her headwear was too flamboyant to mark her as priestess.

On the other hand, the other maiden that was standing serenely next to her only had a simple head wear.

They were none other than Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue of the Erudite Sect!

Yi Ping was really surprised to see them again as he thought, "Why are they here? Who are they waiting for?"

It did not take long for his questions to be answered when the Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin had walked quietly into the courtyard!

Yi Ping was startled to see them as he immediately thought, "They know

each other?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked at her surrounding keenly for intruders before she nodded at Han Lin to indicate that it was convenient enough to talk.

Han Lin sniffed the air, “Seems safe enough.”

They had failed to detect Yi Ping!

Because Yi Ping had harboured no ill-intentions toward them coupled by his breathing was regulated by the Divine Revelation and the Emptiness Translucent that had caused his spirit to be extremely tranquil, he was able to escape their detections!

Yi Ping had no idea that it was nearly impossible for the Celeste Wind Maiden to miss anyone within three hundred paces of her!

And yet, he did!

As he had become one with this divine sword, he was able to conceal the divine aura of the Celestial Alice as well!

It was said that a sword was a reflection of the practitioner’s heart. If the state of mind was calm then so was the heart. And if the heart was as calm as still water then the practitioner would be one with the boundless nature!

And that was exactly the state of divinity that Yi Ping had now!

Yi Ping had no idea how close he was to the Great Emptiness Translucent now. He was now short of a crucial breakthrough to do so. However this crucial breakthrough was also the hardest and could only depend on providence.

Throughout history, there were many practitioners who would be struck at a crucial point and could not advance their state of divinity. Those that finally did often took decades to achieve enlightenment!

If a practitioner wanted to become the strongest and the most skilled, they had to first raise their enlightenment first!

It was because the state of mind and the state of divinity surpassed the

physical limits of their body, causing the impossible to be possible!

Lady Snowflake immediately said with a startled expressions as she looked at the Celeste Wind Maiden with a startled expression, “Our respects to the Celestial Priestesses!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked coldly, “What is wrong?”

Lady Snowflake smiled weakly, “I am just wondering...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden interrupted, “Why my hair has turned to black?”

Both Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue nodded slowly as they simply could not believe their eyes!

The Celeste Wind Maiden explained coldly and her icy demeanor was piercing, “It is all through the grace of the Celestial Mistress. If you are faithful to her, you will be rewarded with rare divine pills that can further your divinity.”

Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue exclaimed excitedly, “Yes, yes. We will.”

Han Lin laughed jovially, “More than that. We will overcome all the obstacles in the Stellar Sanctuary and eventual ascend as true immortals!”

Lady Snowflake gasped softly, “Is this possible? So many others have failed...”

Han Lin pointed out confidently, “Others may have failed but our Celestial Mistress has almost succeeded. Why do you think that we are here? Maybe you have already heard about it. Our Celestial Mistress is actually the Sagess Ai, one of the seven most powerful ancient celestials!”

Lady Snowflake muttered, “True, true...”

Yi Ping was smiling bitterly to himself, “I can’t believe that Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue have actually fallen for that. Even I won’t fall for it.”

Han Lin added, “You are not supposed to contact us unless it is very important.”

Lady Snowflake hesitated for a while before she mustered the courage to say, “The Celestial Mistress has promised to give out a thousand taels of celestium metals and a Divine Dragon Pill...”

Han Lin hummed coldly, “There is news?”

Lady Snowflake smiled alluringly, “I am sure that you know by now that the Lord of the Tranquil City has the Celestial Alice Divine Sword. No one knows that the Immortal Saint of Swords had the Celestial Alice Divine Sword until he lost it to the Lord of the Tranquil City.”

Yi Ping was smiling weakly.

It was because he was still unable to get used to being addressed as the Lord of the Tranquil City...

Han Lin hummed aloud as she said, “That is already an open secret. Surely you are not thinking of old information to barter with us? Have you forgotten the rules of the Celestial Aiel Sect?”

Lady Snowflake smiled weakly, “We dare not forget. We dare not break protocols to meet in this place if it is for something so trivial. But it is important that we mention to you.”

Han Lin said coldly, “Good. If your information is news worthy then you will surely be rewarded. But don’t say I didn’t warn you first. It has better be good.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden hummed coldly in response before she warned icily, “It has better be or else.”

Lady Snowflake smiled bitterly, “The Celestial Alice Divine Sword that you have been looking for may not be as important as what I am going to say to you next.”

Han Lin yawned, “Oh?”

Lady Snowflake lifted her eyes to say coolly, “That is because we have seen the Goddess Celestial Alice herself!”

Immediately the Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin became tense as they looked at each other.

Han Lin quickly regained her composure, “How do you know she is the real Goddess Celestial Alice? There are countless imposters who pretended to be the Goddess Celestial Alice in the past!”

This time, Lady Snowflake smiled mysteriously before she replied, “How do I know if she is the Goddess Celestial Alice? Of course I do know. And I am sure that you know it too. We are all the priestesses of the Goddess Theocracy. In the secret chamber of the Erudite Sect there is a statue of the Goddess Celestial Alice. I am sure that the Celestial Aiel Sect has one too!”

Han Lin and the Celeste Wind Maiden looked at each other again as though they could not believe their ears!

Yi Ping was startled as he thought, “They are all priestesses of the Goddess Theocracy? What is it supposed to mean?”

Lady Snowflake continued, “This same Goddess Celestial Alice has three flower petals on her forehead. Not only that, she even wields the Sacred Sword of the Seven Stars. If she is not the Goddess Celestial Alice then I really do not know who she is!”

She paused briefly before adding, “Moreover, you must have noticed that my level of divinity has increased since the last time that we have met.”

That was true. The Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin had found it strange too that her level of divinity had suddenly surged!

Lady Snowflake explained, “That is because the Goddess Celestial Alice has rewarded me with a Negative Core Divine Pill!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin immediately gasped with disbelief!

Without entering the Stellar Sanctuary, Lady Snowflake had actually gotten a Negative Core Divine Pill!

It was so precious and so rare that a single Negative Core Divine Pill would immediately spark a major intrigue among the celestial clans for it!

In short, it was an extremely rare celestial treasure that could aid the

celestial practitioner to increase their divinity as well as their martial strength!

The Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin were envious; there was no doubt about it from the expressions of their eyes!

Yi Ping on the other hand was gasping secretly!

It was because he finally had an idea who Maiden Ziyan was!

It was something that Lady Snowflake had refused to divulge to anyone!

He thought excitedly, “Maiden Ziyan is really the Goddess Celestial Alice? But who is the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

Han Lin smiled weakly, “Where is she now?”

Lady Snowflake replied coolly, “I do not know. She has simply disappeared from here nearly a month ago.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coldly, “Simply disappeared? From here?”

Han Lin said quietly, “If she is really the Goddess Celestial Alice then no one will be able to stop her from leaving. That is because she is a true immortal practitioner!”

Maiden Ziyue really could not resist her curiosity anymore, “She is really an immortal practitioner? She is really the Eternal Goddess?”

Actually Yi Ping had shared the same curiosity as Maiden Ziyue and he would have jumped down from the tree to ask further but he suppressed the urge as he knew that it was rude to eavesdrop on them.

Maiden Ziyue asked innocently, “If immortal practitioners really exist then shouldn’t they be cultivating in the Immortal Realm instead of in the Celestial Realm? I mean the purpose of the Stellar Sanctuary is a trial for all the celestial practitioners here to ascend to the Immortal Realm. Am I right?”

Han Lin smiled bitterly, “Of all people, you shouldn’t ask this. Have you forgotten that your place? Have you forgotten that you are a priestess of the Goddess Theocracy?”

Maiden Ziyue raised her hands to bow humbly, “May protégé sister enlightens me!”

Han Lin seemed to have softened a little when she saw the sincerity and innocent in her eyes, “The Eternal Goddess is also known as the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Three Known Realms. Isn’t that as good as answering your question already?”

Maiden Ziyue stammered, “You mean that she can move between the three realms? How is that possible? If the immortal practitioners can do that, the natural order of things will be disrupted...”

Maiden Ziyue was a golden celestial and anyone who could reach her level of attainment was an enlightened celestial. So how could she not understand that everything in place must have a counter balance to it?

But if the immortal practitioners were able to descend upon the lower realms then the harmony order in the lower realm would surely be disrupted!

Han Lin replied casually, “You are right but that is only the normal rules for us. For the Eternal Goddess, it is different. Do you understand me?”

Maiden Ziyue shook her head with a weak smile.

Lady Snowflake managed a wryly smile, “I have heard rumours that the Heaveness and the Universal Old Man had secretly been to the lower realm too. And there are also rumours that the Lord of the Tranquil is not a golden celestial when he has ascended to the Celestial Realm. It seems that there is a way to traverse between the realms...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden interrupted coldly, “That is none of our concern. It is the duties of the priestesses of the Goddess Theocracy to carry out the will of the Eternal Goddess and asking questions are not our primary duties.”

All of a sudden she asked with a sly smile, “Why don’t you ask the Lord of the Tranquil City?”

Lady Snowflake smiled, “I guess not. I really don’t want to offend the

Ascension Goddess and the Heavenness.”

There was a glitter in the eyes of the Celeste Wind Maiden as she muttered softly, “I have almost forgotten about them. The Celestial Fairy, the Ascension Goddess and the Heavenness...even that Lie Qing...I will like to duel with them one day to see who of us is the most outstanding.”

Han Lin said jovially, “You want to duel with them to see who is better or you are fighting them for another reason?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden smiled weakly, “Now I know why even the Celestial Mistress can’t stand you sometimes. Go away Han Lin!”

But Han Lin turned to say to Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue instead, “Did you hear the edicts of the Celestial Priestess? Go away, she says!”

Lady Snowflake smiled bitterly but she said, “What about the celestium metals and the Divine Dragon Pill?”

Han Lin took out a pouch and tossed it carelessly to her, “This is the Divine Dragon Pill. As for the celestium metals, I will ask someone to deliver to you after we have returned from the Stellar Sanctuary.”

Lady Snowflake asked, “What if...”

Han Lin said sharply, “What if we don’t return from the Stellar Sanctuary? Is that what you are trying to say?”

Lady Snowflake smiled weakly.

Han Lin continued, “You don’t have to worry. It will be delivered to your sect whether we return from the Stellar Sanctuary or not. Now leave.”

Lady Snowflake bowed with her hands, “I bide my farewell first. See you later.”

With that, she had walked away.

Maiden Ziyue also bowed with her hands, “Farewell to the Celestial Priestesses.”

Her eyes were melancholy as she asked quietly, “I have heard that the Lord of the Tranquil City has fought with the Mad Conqueror. Is he

well?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked sharply at her before she said coldly, “He won’t die yet. Why don’t you go and ask him yourself?”

Maiden Ziyue was flustered all of a sudden as she quickly said, “Nothing. I have to go now.”

And she quickly headed for the northern entrance of the courtyard and vanished from view.

The Celeste Wind Maiden sighed softly, “Yet another maiden that is hopelessly falling for a man that she shouldn’t have fallen in the first place.”

Han Lin teased jovially, “You are talking about her or yourself?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden sighed softly, “How about you then?”

All of a sudden Han Lin became extremely quiet and she seemed to be looking at a faraway place...

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked, “What is wrong?”

Han Lin smiled coldly, “Nothing. I just thought of something else.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said quietly, “Do you like Yi Ping?”

Yi Ping was stunned that the Celeste Wind Maiden would suddenly mention him!

Han Lin smiled, “So what if I like him? Unlike you who dare not admit it.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden became flustered as she stammered, “You... you! That is not true!”

Han Lin smiled with a sly tease, “Oh really? Is this your first lie?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden sighed softly, “What can I do? Even the Goddess Aiel and the Goddess Isa...”

Han Lin whispered with a soft laugh, “You mustn’t mention her true name. If she heard us, we are dead. She is an extremely petty Goddess.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden broke into a smile, “You know that she is talking with the Lord Supreme now and won’t be eavesdropping upon us. Sometimes I don’t really understand the relationship between Aiel and you. Han Lin, tell me who you really are. Until today, I didn’t know that you have a protégé brother! And what is this Green Dragon Sacred Sword? I have never seen you this upset before.”

Han Lin seemed to have a sudden sadness...

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked, “What is it? You should be happy, am I right? You have met a kin. Well. If you don’t want to tell me your past, I really don’t mind at all. You know me. I am not a nosey parker.”

Han Lin sighed softly, “I...my protégé brother Chu Mingfan has changed a lot since we have last met. He isn’t like this in the past. He seems to have some agenda for everything that he does.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked, “Why do you say that? He looks like a highly enlightened celestial practitioner to me. Moreover he is also one of the Ascendant Custodians. If it is not for him, we won’t be allowed to move so freely in the grounds of the Holy Ascension Sect!”

Han Lin smiled bitterly as she blurted out, “You really think so? Do you know that the Ancient Celestials have almost annihilated my entire clan?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden had suddenly grown solemn, “Han Lin, are you a Dragon Practitioner?”

Han Lin nodded slowly, “At this point, I don’t wish to hide from you anymore. Yes, I am a Dragon Practitioner!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was stunned as she gasped, “Didn’t the Goddess Celestial Alice gives the edict in the past to purge all the Dragon Practitioners?”

Han Lin smiled coldly, “Now you know why it is impossible for my protégé brother to aid the Lord Supreme? It is because he plays a major hand in killing many of my clan!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden asked softly, “Does our mistress knows about

it?”

Han Lin nodded slowly.

The Celeste Wind Maiden said solemnly, “Then she is defying the Goddess Celestial Alice openly. She is really bold.”

Han Lin replied, “She may appear cold on the outside but inside she is actually a warm person.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said, “Why did she help you? I still find it impossible to believe.”

Han Lin smiled bitterly, “That is because I help her fight off the Goddess Isa in the past.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden raised her eyebrows, “The two of you can actually fight off the Goddess Isa?”

Han Lin whispered almost audibly, “There is a little help from the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos too.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled as she quickly asked, “That is impossible! No one has ever seen him before or knows what he really looks like! Not even the ancient celestial practitioners have ever seen him before!”

Han Lin said bitterly, “We didn’t really see him. He warned the Goddess Isa off from a distance. That was how Aiel’s nightmare had started when the Goddess Isa began to pursue her.”

She had a smile, “Even though I have not seen him face to face but I remember his righteous air and mesmerizing voice to this day...”

All of a sudden she had realized that the Celeste Wind Maiden was staring at her in utter disbelief so she quickly shut up.

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coldly, “Han Lin, who exactly are you? Aiel and you are not any ordinary celestial practitioners. If you are in the same time era as the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos then you shouldn’t be possibly be here today and would be dust. It just isn’t possibly for any celestial practitioner to live this long unless they can ascend to the

Immortal Realm.”

Han Lin smiled bitterly, “It is forbidden to speak about it. You have to find it out yourself. But I can only say to you that we are as much as a celestial practitioner as you do and are trying to reach the Immortal Realm. However the way there has been sealed and the only way to ascend to the Immortal Realm is via the Stellar Sanctuary.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden sighed coldly, “We have been protégé sisters for so long. Until today did I finally realize how little I have known about you and our Celestial Mistress.”

Han Lin whispered, “That is not important right now. The most important thing is that Celestial Alice has been awakened and that means almost all the conditions for unsealing the Stellar Sanctuary has been fulfilled. We must seize this initiative before the Goddess Celestial Alice acts before us!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was startled, “Act before the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

Han Lin nodded gravely, “She will initiate a calamity upon us all to preserve her own state of immortality...”

All of a sudden there were tears in her eyes, “Just like a long time ago for the Dragon Practitioners and the Ancient Celestials...”

But she quickly composed herself and said to the Celeste Wind Maiden, “Sister Qian’Er, let’s go or we are going to be late.”

Yi Ping was stunned by their conversations. It was because he was a newly arrival to the Celestial Realm and knew very little of the lore of the Celestial Realm and even the lower realm.

When he had ensured that they had left, he leapt gracefully down from where he was hiding. He sighed softly as he thought, “Maiden Ziyan has a heart of gold. She can’t be the Goddess Celestial Alice that Han Lin is mentioning. Or else she won’t try to end her life back in the Astronomic Stellar Formation...”

As he walked absent minded into another courtyard, he turned and

bumped into a fine looking man with more silver than black hair on his head who shouted at him, “Ping’Er, look where you are going!”

He was startled as he looked intently at this man but he could not recognize him!

The fine looking man growled as he rubbed his chin, “Ping’Er, you don’t know who I am?”

Yi Ping asked bewilderingly, “Who are you? I have never seen you before.”

He had never seen such a charismatic man before!

The fine looking man roared with laughter, “Ping’Er, I am your protégé master!”

Yi Ping was stunned as he examined him keenly again. Now that he had mentioned it, he did find his voice vague familiar and even the mannerism of his laughter was the same!

He stammered, “You are really my protégé master?”

The fine looking man patted him on his shoulder as he said, “Of course I am. If even you do not recognize me, I wonder if the Sagess Ai is still able to recognize me. I am really handsome when I am young.”

Yi Ping stammered, “Protégé master, you have shaved off your long beard?”

The fine looking man rubbed his chin, “Yes it is a pity but it is a noble sacrifice.”

In the Celestial Realm, the true celestials almost never age and even the growth rate of their beards were miserable. That was why their beards became a notation of their rankings and seniority in the Celestial Realm. It was considered to be sacrilegious to cut and shave the beards of the true celestials!

Yi Ping rubbed his eyes and he was blinking at the Universal Old Man, “Noble sacrifice?”

The Universal Old Man nodded, “Never mind. You probably won’t be

able to understand.”

Then he patted Yi Ping on his shoulder to laugh merrily, “I bet that you have never seen the face of the Sagess Ai before. Do you know that behind her veil is the most beautiful maiden in the entire Celestial Realm? That captivating eyes of hers and her constant alluring expressions are equal to all your consorts!”

He waved his fingers as he continued, “But she won’t reveal herself to anyone. Only I have seen her true self!”

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly as he muttered, “Yes, yes...”

He was suddenly very flustered!

The Universal Old Man looked at Yi Ping before he asked, “What is wrong with your expressions? You don’t believe me?”

Yi Ping quickly thought of an excuse, “I dare not. Erm...I am just thinking that the celestial name of my protégé master may not be suitable now.”

The Universal Old Man slammed his fist into his palm as he said excitedly, “That is right! You are right! Why didn’t I think of this earlier? Lucky you have reminded me...”

But he was soon muttering to himself, “If Ai sees me like this now, she will remember the past and fall for my charms...”

Chapter 133: The Goddess Theocracy

When Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man had stepped into the terrace platform of the Golden Ascension Hall, Yi Ping was astonished at the sight of the number of celestial practitioners; more than twenty thousand celestial practitioners had gathered and they were all crowding outside the Golden Ascension Hall.

They were all waiting excitedly for the outcome of their celestial clans' divine lot for the Stellar Sanctuary and were not deterred by the heavy winds nor were they dampened by the constant tremors!

But when Yi Ping had stepped into the terrace platform of the Golden Ascension Hall, he was immediately surrounded by a large number of celestial practitioners who were eager to take a look at him!

"He is the Lord of the Tranquil City!"

"He is the one that has defeated the Immortal Saint of Swords!"

"He is the one that has defeated the Mad Conqueror!"

"He is the one that has tamed the Ascension Goddess?"

"He is the chosen of the Heavenness?"

"I have never seen anyone with such righteous air before..."

The commotions were chaotic and they were all rushing for a closer look at the Lord of the Tranquil City.

This caused Yi Ping to be awkward as he looked at the Universal Old Man.

The Universal Old Man muttered with a soft sigh of envy, "Why are you looking at me for? I am not the one that they are interested in."

Most of the celestial practitioners that were presented were dark celestials; they were not allowed to enter the Golden Ascension Hall and were waiting outside according to their celestial clans while most of the golden celestials were the protégés of the seven celestial orthodox clans that were keeping watch outside the Golden Ascension Hall.

“Master Yi Ping, I am Fan Sichuan!”

“I am the Dark Sword Tie Musan!”

“I’m He Tianye! It is really my honour to finally grasp the extraordinary air of Master Yi Ping!”

There were so many celestials that were greeting Yi Ping that he was at a loss with so much attention; he bowed humbly and respectfully at each of them as he said, “It is really too much honour. I am just an ordinary practitioner...”

“Master Yi Ping!”

It was a powerful martial shout that quickly silenced the celestial practitioners that had gathered around Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man!

Yi Ping looked up and recognized Reverend Sword Pilgrim!

He quickly greeted him with his hands, “Reverend Sword Pilgrim!”

Reverend Sword Pilgrim laughed heartily, “You will be late if I am not here.”

He looked sternly at the celestial practitioners that had gathered around Yi Ping before saying, “Master Yi Ping has to be in the Golden Ascension Hall. If he is not in, the divine lot cannot be drawn and your clan protégés elders and masters will surely be impatient, am I right? So let him pass quickly!”

Immediately many of the celestials quickly said, “Yes, yes...this way, Master Yi Ping...”

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he said to everyone as he repeated several times, “Thank you, heroes. It is also my honour to exchange greetings with everyone...”

He also bowed with his hands to Reverend Sword Pilgrim, “Thank you...”

Reverend Sword Pilgrim laughed, “It is nothing at all.”

His sharp eyes however were looking at the Universal Old Man as he

asked him, "I am Reverend Sword Pilgrim. May I know who you are? You do not look like an ordinary celestial practitioner..."

The Universal Old Man grumbled, "Just a day ago, we are still playing a game of Go in the Velvet Prosperity Hall. How come everyone knows who my protégé is but no one seems to know who I am."

Reverend Sword Pilgrim was stunned, "You are...the Universal Old Man!"

The Universal Old Man muttered, "Who else can I be?"

Reverend Sword Pilgrim broke into a loud laughter, "I can't believe that it is really you. Just because you have lost to me, you don't have to disguise yourself."

The Universal Old Man groaned softly, "Who is hiding from you?"

He began to roll up his sleeves as he said defiantly, "Let's have another rematch!"

Reverend Sword Pilgrim smiled weakly, "Maybe later or we will be late. Come, let us make haste!"

When Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man had entered the Golden Ascension Hall, almost all the celestial clans had already gathered inside.

Yi Ping estimated that there were at least two hundred clans and five thousand celestial practitioners that were here.

The Golden Ascension Hall was noisy and everyone was rumbling loudly!

Reverend Sword Pilgrim said, "Make haste to your seats and good luck! I got to go outside to monitor the situation. Farewell!"

Yi Ping quickly extended his hands to say humbly, "Farewell!"

However, the Universal Old Man was looking around excitedly for the Sagess Ai and saw her immediately.

It did not really take him too much of an effort; he simply followed the secret glances of all the male practitioners who were all quietly appraising a group of extraordinary beautiful maidens that were

incredibly surreal!

And his stray eyes had caught sight of the Sagess Ai immediately!

He was beaming with smiles as he took broad strides toward the group of heavenly maidens; he knew very well that many of the celestial practitioners were secretly envious of him that he could be seated so near to them!

He whispered softly just enough for Yi Ping to hear, "These hypocrites. They all are. Every one of them is pretending to be looking the other way. They are pretending to be high and almighty celestials but behind the scene, they engaged in all types of dirty business. That is why...that the Heaveness, Great Sage Lord and I will rather be autonomous celestials than join any factions or clans. That is what my true callings are but...the Sagess Ai misunderstands me and...alas...she thought that I have fallen for the Heaveness...alas..."

Yi Ping could only smile weakly as he whispered back, "Protégé master, I am sure if you explain to her she will surely understand..."

The Universal Old Man muttered, "Hope so..."

Yi Ping asked curiously, "Who is the Great Sage Lord?"

The Universal Old Man sighed softly, "He is a close friend of the Heaveness and me but he is no longer with us now..."

He was suddenly melancholy, "Do you know that he is also one of the seven top ancient fighters? If he is around, I say even the Lord Supreme and the Immortal Saint of Swords would not be this conceit in front of us now. Come to think of this, five of the top ancient fighters are in this place today..."

He sighed softly as he stared blankly, "Excluding me, they are the Heaveness, the Lord Supreme, the Sagess Ai and the Immortal Saint of Swords..."

While the Universal Old Man was muttering to himself, Yi Ping had caught sight of the Sagess Ai. She was sitting in a casual manner at the golden platform with the Goddess Isa, Jing'Er, the Celeste Wind Maiden

and Han Lin.

They were actually seating next to Lingfeng, Yixian, Yunzi, Youxue, Lie Qing, Lele, Yang Min and Shi Shi!

And just next to them were Lady Snowflake and Maiden Ziyue!

Lingfeng had also caught sight of Yi Ping and from her purposed expressions. It was obvious that she was in a very bad mood. Somehow Lingfeng always had a hundred ways to show her moods without expressing a single word!

Yi Ping could only bow his head low with a sense of guilt as he moved slowly to where she was seating.

He was thinking, "Lingfeng must be upset with me..."

However the Universal Old Man said, "Don't worry. Her anger isn't direct at you. She always has an enmity with the Sagess Ai. Now that they are seating next to each other, her bad mood is to be expected!"

Yi Ping muttered softly, "If that is the case then it will be good for me..."

He quickly looked around for Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Ye Yin and Shen Xingyue and was slightly relief that they had not arrived yet. If they were around, he would be even more awkward and at a loss to explain his latest adventure!

He had noticed that Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, Reverend Sacred Sage and the Lord Supreme had not arrived yet. He garnered that Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Ye Yin and Shen Xingyue were all likely to arrive with the Lord Supreme.

He wondered, "I wonder if they manage to master the Four Aggregates Sword Formation?"

He began to feel a little excited and had actually forgotten about his awkwardness.

But his thoughts were soon interrupted when a large number of celestial practitioners had suddenly surrounded them as they greeted them!

Yi Ping had immediately recognized the Deadly Wanderer and even the Northern Tyrant in the crowd!

The Northern Tyrant immediately bowed respectfully, "Master Yi Ping, I hope that you do not remember the past and forgives me for my actions..."

Yi Ping immediately said, "I have forgotten again."

The Northern Tyrant smiled weakly, "If I have the luck to be at the same gate as Master Yi Ping, I hope that you can at the very least look after me..."

The Universal Old Man growled, "The whole lot of you are now scared now, am I right? You are hoping that Ping'Er and his group can aid you to clear the obstacles?"

The Deadly Wanderer stammered, "You...you are the Universal Old Man?!"

The Universal Old Man hummed coldly, "Of course I am. Who else can I be?"

The Deadly Wanderer, the Northern Tyrant and many of the celestial practitioners could only mutter weakly, "Yes, yes..."

Yi Ping bowed humbly with his hands as he assured him, "Don't worry. If our divine lot determines that we will be in the same gate, I will surely give a helping hand whenever I can. After all, we are not enemies and the object is to ascend to the highest level of the Stellar Sanctuary."

The Universal Old Man sighed as he thought, "Ping'Er, you are too naïve. Even friends will become arch foes once they are inside the Stellar Sanctuary. There is no escape from the greed and tempting desires once they are inside!"

The Northern Tyrant bowed humbly, "Master Yi Ping, thanks. Good luck on the divine lot later too."

The Deadly Wanderer and dozens of celestial practitioners were not slow in saying, "Master Yi Ping, good luck on the divine lot!"

The Universal Old Man muttered unhappily, "Go, go! Go back to your seats first. The Lord Supreme will be coming soon enough."

The Deadly Wanderer, the Northern Tyrant and all the celestial practitioners immediately bowed with their hands to say, "Senior, good luck on the divine lot..."

The Universal Old Man replied coldly, "That is enough already. Quickly go!"

The Universal Old Man was getting a little irritated. It was because he was all too eager to walk to the Sagess Ai if not for these dozens of celestial practitioners that were blocking him now!

However the dozens of celestial practitioners did not know why the Universal Old Man was irritated and they tried to pacify him; they thought that they had offended him when they had failed to recognize him so they said, "May Senior have the good fortune to find the heavenly relics and the celestial treasures that are in the Stellar Sanctuary..."

"Master Yi Ping!"

Another group of celestial practitioners had also gathered around them once they had recognized Yi Ping from a far!

The Universal Old Man quickly said, "Ping'Er, let's go hurriedly. The others are waiting for us!"

It was with a little difficulty that Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man had finally managed to take more than a hundred steps into the Golden Ascension Hall!

They had never expected that it would be these hundred steps would be so difficult!

Dozens of celestial clans had quickly surrounded them and were trying desperately to gain the support of the Lord of the Tranquil City and the Universal Old Man!

Before Yi Ping and the Universal Old Man had even stepped into the Golden Ascension Hall, the two hundred celestial clans that were inside

were already making secret alliances and agreements!

By all appearances, these celestial clans were supposed to be allies but it was far from the truth!

Centuries of feuds and blood debts had only intensified their rivalries!

But because they were forcefully invited to the grounds of the Holy Ascension Sect and they feared the Lord Supreme, they had reluctantly pretended to be amicable with each other!

As Yi Ping could make his way through finally with a sense of relief, the Universal Old Man grinned at him, "Ping'Er, who is she?"

Yi Ping asked, "Who?"

The Universal Old Man whispered shyly, "That golden hair maiden. She seems to be looking at me!"

If Yi Ping had not taken a look, it would be alright.

But when he had taken a look, he had suddenly noticed that the Goddess Isa and all the other maidens were all looking keenly at him that he almost missed a step!

He was so flustered that his normally quick steps were slowed down!

The Universal Old Man found himself looking at the golden hair heavenly maiden with the stately demeanor. He had noticed that he was not the only one. The Immortal Saint of Swords was also looking queerly at her.

He reminded himself, "Weird. I am still unable to tell her state of divinity. She is an Ancient Celestial too? Yi Ping, what is her name? You still haven't told me yet. I remember that she says she wants to kill an unfaithful man? Poor maiden. Alas, the evils of the Celestial Realm!"

Yi Ping whispered, "She is the Goddess Isa."

The Universal Old Man stroked his clean chin with his fingers as he smiled, "Alas, beautiful name! What a beautiful celestial name! How did you know her? She is a protégé of the Celestial Aiel Sect?"

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly as he whispered, "I really do not know who she is. Do you think that she is an immortal practitioner?"

The Universal Old Man looked at Yi Ping before laughing, "Her state of divinity seems high enough but that doesn't mean she is an immortal practitioner. She could be a Golden Celestial at the end of her sixth or seventh heavenly tribulation. She can also be a newly transfigured Ancient Celestial or is an Ancient Celestial from the start."

Yi Ping asked, "You are sure? But..."

The Universal Old Man nodded as he said firmly, "Yes I am sure. As far as I know, only the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos and the Goddess Celestial Alice are the true immortal practitioners. Needless to say, they are likely to leave behind evidences of their stunning achievements! If you know the lore of the Ancient Celestials, the Goddess Celestial Alice gives us the edicts from the Celestial Realm!"

Yi Ping said softly, "Somehow I feel that things are not what it seems. The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos isn't mentioned anywhere except for the Stellar Sanctuary. What if there is an entire city of immortal practitioners? What if most are only interested in pursuing further enlightenment and that is why we have never heard of them? What if the Immortal Realm never exists in the first place?"

The Universal Old Man laughed, "There aren't so many what if. The Stellar Sanctuary is the best proof already that the Immortal Realm actually exists! Moreover, our heavenly tribulations are always hinting us of a higher plane of existence!"

He patted Yi Ping before saying, "The Goddess Celestial Alice won't lie to us."

He lowered his voice to a whisper and appeared extremely secretive, "Next time I will tell you more. Or maybe the Heavenness will share with you now that she has completely regained her memories. But for now, I will only tell you briefly. Guess what the rewards that we are promised for defeating the Dragon Race by the Goddess Celestial Alice? We, the Pangu Clan are allowed to ascend to the heavens to be immortal beings!

As celestial practitioners we are no longer able to conceive but if we are to perseverance to the very end, we will be able to be immortal beings!”

Yi Ping did not feel that was right so he replied softly, “And at what price? The Ancient Celestials are so few now...”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “Yes, so few now but we still have many descendants!”

Yi Ping was stunned as he asked, “Oh?! Descendants?”

The Universal Old Man pointed at him, “You are dense aren’t you? The golden celestials and all the mortals in the lower realm are our descendants. Why do you think that before the Ancient Celestials departed from the lower realm, we will leave behind our martial and celestial secrets? The Goddess Celestial Alice has already warned us that the path to true immortality will be filled with dangers and will be arduous but she has given us a head start.”

He sighed softly, “She is the one that has informed us that the enlightened mortals will one day also be able to ascend as celestial practitioners. Together, we must continue to seek further enlightenment. Alas, I have never expected that the Stellar Sanctuary will be so hard and it will only appear so infrequent! Time flies so fast that I have already been here for thousands of years now...”

Yi Ping was startled, “So long?!”

All of a sudden he asked, “Is Maiden Ziyan the Goddess Celestial Alice? Why didn’t you recognize her at the Astronomic Stellar Formation?”

The Universal Old Man growled softly, “That is because I have never seen her. Her edicts are delivered through her priestesses and the elders of our clan. You can ask the Sagess Ai though.”

Yi Ping smiled weakly, “You mean that the Celestial Mistress, I mean Sagess Ai is a priestess of the Goddess Celestial Alice?”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “This time you are so smart!”

Yi Ping sighed softly, “But it is a pity that the Maiden Ziyan isn’t here

now. I really wish that she is not the Goddess Celestial Alice.”

The Universal Old Man laughed merrily, “Why? She seems to like you. If she is the Goddess Celestial Alice then you can ask her on our behalf for the intricacy formulas of the Immortal Practice!”

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, “She did give us remember? But none of us really understands if it is really an intricate formula. It is more like a code for moral instructions. Moreover you better hope that she isn’t the Goddess Celestial Alice. It is because she did lie to us that she is the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. And I remember you say to me before that the higher state of divinity a celestial practitioner has attained, the more incapable they are of lying or else it will affect their enlightenment.”

He looked curiously at the Universal Old Man, “But she did lie to us. Am I right? And if she can lie then she can lie to you about the Immortal Realm too.”

The Universal Old Man was stunned. It was because he had never expected Yi Ping to be so sharp all of a sudden!

Just when he was about to ponder more, they had already reached the steps of the golden platform...

He was immediately greeted by Maiden Ziyue, “My humble respects to the Lord of the Tranquil City...”

Yi Ping quickly replied awkwardly, “Just call me Yi Ping...”

Maiden Ziyue answered shyly, “Master Yi Ping...”

Maiden Ziyue gasped, “You are...”

Lingfeng said coldly, “Who else can he be other than the Universal Old Man?”

Yi Ping asked with a slightly surprise, “You can recognize him?”

Lie Qing blurted out, “Only a fool will not be able to recognize his... belly!”

Immediately there were several laughter and giggles from the maidens!

Lele was laughing so jovially that she was bending over and in tears!

Yi Ping sighed softly, "That is right...his belly..."

"So you are willing to come back now?" Lingfeng asked as she interrupted them.

She added, "You seem to be plucking flowers in the wilderness recently. But these flowers in the wilderness all have poisonous thorns. So you have better watched out."

It was obvious that she was jealous!

Lele immediately laughed softly, "Sister Lingfeng is envious!"

She had immediately winked at Han Lin, telling her. "Don't mind Sister Lingfeng. If you know her well enough, you know that she is actually quite easy to get along!"

The Sagess Ai yawned, "Is that so? I doubt so."

Lingfeng ignored the two of them as she raised her alluring eyes sternly at Lele.

All the other maidens were all smiling weakly as they looked at Yi Ping, Lingfeng, Lele and the Sagess Ai!

The Universal Old Man was muttering weakly, "Ai, how are you? How is your talk with the Lord Supreme? I will advise you not to get too close to him..."

The Sagess Ai hummed coldly, "Not to worry. I won't. The Celestial Aiel Sect has nothing to do with the Holy Ascension Sect whatever so. Also, this is none of your business right? Why are you questioning me?"

The Universal Old Man stammered, "We are friends..."

The Sagess Ai hummed coldly, "Forget it. I have a new interest now."

The Universal Old Man was startled, "Who?! That Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage? Just because he has a divine sword and I don't, you think he is better than me?"

The Sagess Ai replied coldly, "That is right."

But she was looking shyly at Yi Ping while Han Lin was giggling behind her!

Lingfeng looked coldly at the Sagess Ai and her group, "You seem to be well prepared and have some formidable helpers."

She looked at Han Lin, Jing'Er, the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Goddess Isa one by one.

She lingered at the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Goddess Isa longer than the others.

The Goddess Isa said casually to her, "The mark of your Heaven Eyes is impressive. So, are you still on the Greater Stellar Position or have you reached the Lesser Heaven Position?"

Lingfeng raised her eyebrows.

The Goddess Isa smiled, "Don't look at me like this. I don't even have any Heaven Eyes to aid me."

Lele was curious as she asked sarcastically, "Oh mighty Goddess Isa, can you please enlighten me? What positions are you talking about? There are different levels of attainment for the Heaven Eyes too?"

The Goddess Isa said casually, "That is right. When the Heaven Eyes is first opened, it starts from the Lesser Stellar Position then to the Greater Stellar Position. If a practitioner is lucky enough, they will be able to reach the Lesser Heaven Position and then the Greater Heaven Position. Finally if they are twice lucky then they may be able to attain the Lesser Cosmos Position and the Greater Cosmos Position. All in all, there are sixth positions."

Lele's curiosity was piqued, "Then can you tell which level of positioning have I attained for my Heaven Eyes?"

The Goddess Isa smiled coldly, "You may be just a Golden Celestial but you have already opened your Heaven Eyes. That is an impossible feat. No wonder you are able to fight through so many battles unscathed..."

Lele looked intently at her before asking, "You mean you have been

watching us from the shadows even before we have reached the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan?”

The Goddess Isa nodded gently.

Lele added, “So you are envious of me that I have opened my Heaven Eyes and you have not? Well, let me tell you this. That is because I am a genius...”

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “That is because an immortal practitioner has aided you at a great cost to her or his attainment. Judging by the handiwork of your Heaven Eyes, you have already reached the Greater Stellar Position. You ought to thank the heavens. It is not something that can happen to anyone.”

Lele was a little disappointed, “So I am just on the second level of positioning. What a disappointment!”

Lingfeng said quietly to Lele, “You are wrong. For the majority of the practitioners that had managed to open their Heaven Eyes, they can only reach the Lesser Stellar Position. That is already their limit! The difference between the Lesser Stellar Position and the Greater Stellar Position is extremely vast, as much as the difference between a celestial practitioner and an immortal practitioner!”

Yixian unconsciously touched her forehead.

There were five tiny blue marks on her forehead but had since disappeared!

But she knew that her Heaven Eyes was only concealing itself as she thought, “Then what is the level of my Heaven Eyes positioning?”

The Goddess Isa seemed to have heard her as she said quietly, “But it seems that someone has already reached the Greater Heaven Positioning. What that means, she has to find out herself.”

She whispered softly in Yixian’s ears, “You are a formidable opponent.”

She looked at Yixian, Lie Qing and Lele before she said to Lingfeng, “Your group is equally strong too. But we won’t lose to you.”

Lie Qing was a little startled. She looked intently at Lingfeng and the Goddess Isa as she thought, “Isn’t it obvious to me that they actually know each other but why are they pretending otherwise? It is indeed very strange!”

Even Youxue and Yunzi were looking at each other discreetly before they exchanged knowing glance with Lie Qing!

The protégés of the Virtuous Palace were trained in the secret arts of subtly observation, a secret art that was handed down by none other than Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress!

“Lingfeng, who are they?”

An enchanting maiden had just walked into their midst quietly!

It was Shen Xingyue!

Yi Ping asked, “Xingyue, aren’t you supposed to be practicing the Four Aggregates Sword Formation with Ye Yin, Yu’Er and Mei’Er?”

Shen Xingyue laughed softly, “Have you forgotten that I was expelled by the Holy Ascension Sect already? As for the rest, they will be coming shortly.”

She paused briefly before winking at Yi Ping, “From on now, I belongs to you.”

Yi Ping quickly said with a deep flush, “Xingyue, we have others here...”

Shen Xingyue moaned softly as she looked at the Sagess Ai, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Maiden Ziyue, Lady Snowflake, Yang Min, Jing’Er and the Goddess Isa before she said coldly, “Indeed! There are others here and are all pretty maidens!”

Lady Snowflake laughed softly, “Don’t drag me into it!”

Lingfeng got up as she smiled alluringly, “It is a good thing that Sister Xingyue you are here now. Yi Ping is bullying me!”

Yi Ping was stunned, “I did? When? I just arrive and didn’t say anything...”

Lingfeng insisted softly, "Yes, you did!"

All of a sudden, Shen Xingyue expressions changed as she said respectfully to Jing'Er and Yang Min, "You are the Exalt Heaven Fairy and the Lunar Heaven Fairy! My respects to Seniors!"

Jing'Er immediately smiled warmly, "That is in the past. It has been a long time. It seems that your present attainment is higher than us now. How long have you been in the Celestial Realm? A hundred years?"

Shen Xingyue answered shyly, "One year..."

Immediately, Yang Min, Jing'Er and the other maidens who did not know who was Shen Xingyue were all stunned!

She had taken a mere one year to become an ancient celestial practitioner!

The Goddess Isa was muttering to herself in utter astonishment as she looked intently at Shen Xingyue...

Yang Min soon regained her composure to say, "If you don't mind, you can address us as your sisters. We have heard from Shi Shi that like her, you are..."

She stole a glance at Yi Ping before adding, "...the consort of the Lord of the Tranquil City now."

Shen Xingyue looked at Shi Shi the Stellar Heaven Fairy, "That is right. Do you know that when I am a lowly celestial practitioner back then, I have admired the three of you? At that time, the three of you are one of the strongest celestial practitioners in the lower realm. I have often wondered to myself if it is even possible for me to ascend."

Yang Min sighed softly, "It is our mistake to depend too much on our divine swords to ascend. Our ascension did not go as smoothly as we have thought."

She stole a look at Shi Shi who was almost closed to her tears.

But Shi Shi composed herself to say, "But now..."

She took a gentle look at Yi Ping and at Yunzi, "...I consider myself to be

lucky. I have met someone deserving of me. Also now I have so many sisters to share my woes and joys!"

Yi Ping muttered, "Shi Shi..."

Yang Min and Jing'Er were envious but unlike the Goddess Isa, the Sagess Ai, the Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin, they made no attempt to disguise it!

It was because they were happy for Shi Shi!

Shen Xingyue smiled, "Good sisters then! You must tell me more about experiences in the Celestial Realm. If it is too painful to recall then that is alright! But if you are happy to share with me, I will be glad too!"

Lingfeng muttered, "Xingyue, I thought that you are on the same side as me."

Shen Xingyue laughed softly as she looked at Yixian, Youxue, Lie Qing and Lingfeng, "I may be betrothed to the White Sage in the past but for Yi Ping, I am afraid that I am ranked quite lowly. One more or one less sister doesn't matter to me anymore!"

Yi Ping was smiling bitterly as he said, "What is this consort talk? The wedding is supposed to be a mock wedding to gain Ye Yin's trust so that she will not go around telling the others what we have discovered..."

Yixian was smiling and her smiles were heavenly as she rocked slightly back, "Ping'Er! Now you are still...precisely that all of them know that you won't be able to make up your mind or is afraid to hurt anyone of them. So they lie to you. The wedding isn't a mock! It is real. And Heavens and Earth is the witness!"

Yi Ping was stunned, "It is real!?"

Lie Qing laughed softly, "If we don't take this drastic measure, how then do you think we can bind you to us? Moreover..."

Shi Shi added, "...Moreover we are all celestial practitioners now. If we are frustrated by our troubled emotions, it will be very bad for our further enlightenment. This is the only way to put the hearts of everyone to rest.

You wouldn't want to see all of us sad?"

Yi Ping muttered with a soft sigh, "Perhaps that is the best..."

It was because after going through so many battles thick and thin with these maidens, he did not want to hurt anyone; he really did not know how to handle any of them...

It was a lucky thing that Yixian had been really understanding to him...

Han Lin who had been listening with interest interrupted, "It will be fun to have another mock wedding. I like to participate too..."

Yi Ping turned pale immediately as he stammered, "Maiden Han Lin, you really know how to joke..."

The Goddess Isa sighed softly as she looked intently at Yi Ping, "I can't tolerate sharing my beloved with anyone.

In the end, I am forced to sacrifice my divinity and attainment because my heart is too envious. Now..."

She looked at everyone and her level of divinity had suddenly surged, startling everyone!

Immediately all the maidens took a step back and readied a martial stance!

But as soon as the level of divinity of the Goddess Isa had surged, it had plummeted almost immediately as she smiled coldly to everyone, "I am not so foolish as to take out all of you in this place. However, it is another matter while in the Stellar Sanctuary."

The Sagess Ai said quietly, "Surely you are not thinking of going back on your word? You say you will help me in the Stellar Sanctuary."

The Goddess Isa smirked coldly, "I surely will but I have never said I will aid the rest."

The Celeste Wind Maiden hummed coldly, "You are really ungrateful."

The Universal Old Man who had been trying hard to talk to the Sagess Ai stammered out, "I will surely help you!"

But the Sagess Ai ignored him and pretended not to hear him.

Youxue suddenly said, "They have come!"

Indeed!

The Lord Supreme, Reverend Sacred Sage, Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage, the Eclipse Heaven Goddess, the Axis Heaven Goddess and Ascension Goddess had just arrived via another entrance, followed by the Four Reverend Ascendant Priests, Xuan Kong, Xuan Qian, Xuan Wei and Xuan You!

Almost all the celestial practitioners immediately rose up to pay their homage to him!

The numerous Ascendant protégés and close allies immediately shouted fervently, "Hail the Ascendant Supreme Leader. Long live the Ascendant Supreme Leader! Long live the Lord Supreme! May the eternal flames of the Ascendant Fire never extinguish and all the songs of heavens echo the deeds of the Holy Ascension Sect!"

While the Sagess Ai, the Goddess Isa and Han Lin were unimpressed by the proclamations, they were still slightly startled by the extraordinary divine air of the newly arrivals!

These arrivals were the best in the entire Holy Ascension Sect!

Yi Ping was stunned at the divine radiance of the Ascension Goddess, the Eclipse Heaven Goddess and the Axis Heaven Goddess!

He murmured, "Ye Yin, Yu'Er and Mei'Er are so different now..."

He was a little in awe of them but he soon became flustered when he had suddenly noticed that Ye Yin the Ascension Goddess was looking shyly at him!

Not only Ye Yin but Yu'Er and Mei'Er as well!

Yi Ping was not the only one who was stunned.

The Sagess Ai, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Jing'Er, Yang Min and Han Lin were shocked to see them!

The Sagess Ai was muttering, “The Eclipse and the Axis Heaven Goddess, they have finally ascended?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden was stunned at the divinity of the Ascension Goddess, “This is impossible! She is but a newly celestial practitioner who has barely been in the Celestial Realm for a hundred years. In such a short time, she has become an ancient celestial practitioner?!”

The Ascension Goddess was one of the present seven super celestial fighters in the Celestial Realm. Her rise had been too phenomenon!

Yang Min was muttering, “The Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess are now in the Celestial Realm. What is going on?”

All of a sudden Yi Ping could felt the cold gazes of Ye Yin, Yu’Er and Mei’Er that were upon him!

He shuddered slightly.

The Ascension Goddess, the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess were not looking at him directly but their divine senses were so uncanny that they could feel the subtle emotions that were going on.

It was because they were suddenly aware that just next to the golden platform that Yi Ping was seating at were several extraordinary maidens!

So in a way they were focusing all their divine senses and envious air at Yi Ping!

This did not go unnoticed by the Goddess Aiel and the Goddess Isa!

They immediately thought, “They are his consorts too? A lofty celestial maiden will never pick someone who has a lower level of attainment than them lest it will severely impair their attainment and future enlightenment. But they...”

Lingfeng laughed alluringly as she looked at Yi Ping, “I don’t know how you are going to get out of this mess. Ye Yin isn’t someone who is so easily be dealt with.”

Ye Yin was of course the Ascension Goddess!

Yi Ping could only smile weakly. He was smart enough to keep quiet.

He sighed softly, "I can never win any argument with Lingfeng so it is better that I keep quiet for now. Moreover, she is also half my grand protégé mistress..."

Yunzi said quietly to Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, no matter what is going to happen you must be strong. I...I am going to my seat now. No matter what happens, I won't oppose you..."

Yi Ping muttered, "Yunzi..."

Youxue called out hurriedly, "Sister Yun!"

But Yunzi had already departed and she was beside the Immortal Saint of Swords in the next instant!

Yunzi was now the protégé leader of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan and had to fight for their interest in the Stellar Sanctuary!

As the Lord Supreme entered the Golden Ascension Hall, he had immediately spotted the Goddess Isa. At first glance, he knew that she was no ordinary celestial practitioner!

The Lord Supreme was more caution than most celestial practitioners. He knew that the Sagess Ai was also the celestial priestess of the Goddess Celestial Alice and also one of the elders of the Pangu Clan.

He was under no illusions that there were other immortal practitioners in the Celestial Realm. The Goddess Celestial Alice was one, the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos was one and there must be possibly more of them!

He had spent hundreds of years in secret exploring the other heavens of the Celestial Realm in an attempt to unravel the secrets of the Stellar Sanctuary and the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Eventually he had one conclusion; all the clues seemed to point toward a mysterious celestial sect that was named the Goddess Theocracy!

While most had never heard of the Goddess Theocracy before, its influences extended from the lower realm to the upper realm!

The elders of the Pangu Clan, the Erudite Sect, the Celestial Aiel Sect

and many more unknown martial clans and celestial clans were actually part of the Goddess Theocracy!

They were like the watchers, influencing the affairs of the mortals and other celestials subtly!

His first impression of the Goddess Isa was that she was either an immortal practitioner or an ancient celestial priestess of the Goddess Theocracy!

He murmured to himself, "This is going to be interesting."

The Lord Supreme reverberated aloud as he looked sternly at the thousands of celestial practitioners that were presented in the Golden Ascension Hall, "Greetings. I am going to skip the formalities and go direct to the point."

Immediately there were great bursts of rumblings in the Golden Ascension Hall as thousands of celestial practitioners from two hundred over celestial clans acknowledged excitingly at the same time!

They were all here to challenge the Stellar Sanctuary and ascend as immortal practitioners!

The majority of these celestial practitioners had never been to the Stellar Sanctuary. At the same time large number of them would not be permitted to go to the Stellar Sanctuary at all; only the most powerful and highly attained celestials in their clans would be going to the Stellar Sanctuary but that did not damper their spirits!

It was because it was their honor to escort their clan seniors and elders to the gates of the Stellar Sanctuary. If their own clan seniors and elders would ascend to be an immortal practitioner or brought back the artifacts and celestial skills from the Stellar Sanctuary then it would also be in their advantage!

The Lord Supreme continued, "To prevent collaborations and to ensure the best chances for all of us, very soon we are going to start drawing the lots for the Stellar Sanctuary!"

Yi Ping raised his voice, "Why are we drawing the lots? Isn't it better for

all of us to storm one of the gates of the Stellar Sanctuary together?

Immediately there were several roars of laughter from all over the hall!

Old Hare the grand patriarch of the Mythical Seal Clan laughed aloud and his voice filled the Golden Ascension Hall thunderously, "Lord of the Tranquil City, you may not know this but in the Stellar Sanctuary, more does not equal better!"

Yi Ping was startled and so were several hundreds of celestial practitioners who had never been to the Stellar Sanctuary.

Yi Ping asked, "Oh? Why is it so?"

Old Hare laughed, "It is because there are numerous traps in the Stellar Sanctuary and if the group is too large, then the risk will increase considerably. Moreover once a celestial treasure appears in the Stellar Sanctuary, everyone will forget that they are allies and will attempt to seize it! So it is better to choose a lesser known gate than one with too many celestial practitioners!"

The Immortal Saint of Swords echoed with his internal strength via the Thousand Mile Resonant Divine Skill, "It is the truth. Half of the celestial practitioners inside the Stellar Sanctuary are actually killed by the others. After discussions with the Lord Supreme, we have decided to make draw a divine lot to determine our fates in the Stellar Sanctuary. Not only will it be fair, it will also save us the headache of picking the gates."

The Lord Supreme nodded before he resonated coldly, "Before we proceed, there are a few rules that we must enforce here before the divine lot. Those that did not comply with it will be the same as our enemies and all the orthodox celestial clans will have the authority to punish them in whatever ways that are fittings!"

The hegemony air of the Lord Supreme was cold and extremely piercing!

It was not an empty threat!

Even if the Holy Ascension Sect did not take any action, all the other celestial clans were like vultures once they found an excuse to attack another celestial clan for its martial and celestial secrets!

Only the foolish and the ignorant clans would dare to incur the wrath of all the celestial clans!

The Lord Supreme continued coldly, “Firstly, all the celestial clans can choose to draw up to two divine lots or abstain from the draw.”

The Sagess Ai raised her eyebrows as she asked resoundingly, “Two divine lots? Won’t it make it easier for those that decide to collaborate?”

There were many rumblings this time!

Even Yi Ping was confused as he looked at Lingfeng, “That is right. Isn’t the divine lot supposed to be a fair chance for all the celestial clans? Why are there two divine lots?”

Lingfeng pondered quickly before she whispered, “I am sure the Lord Supreme will explain it soon enough. Be patient.”

Indeed!

The Lord Supreme continued coldly as though he could hear the thoughts of everyone, “Secondly once a celestial clan has decided to pick the divine lot, they are allowed to pick one or two divine lots. But...”

He smiled coldly, “But if a celestial clan does decide to pick two divine lots then they must send at least a representative for each of the divine lot that had been allocated for the gates of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

There were many loud rumblings and mutterings immediately!

Many of the celestial practitioners were exchanging startled look and realization with each other!

Majority of the celestial clans could not afford to split their strength into two!

And it was almost suicide to do so!

And moreover there were many other unfamiliar celestial clans and autonomous celestials out there!

How many celestial clans would pick two divine lots instead of one?

The Universal Old Man roared with laughter, “Even though it appears

that none of the celestial clans will pick two divine lots but there is a good chance that one of the divine lots will be a good one. The problem is the other divine lot may be an unlucky one. This loophole may give a celestial clan the best chance to survive but someone must be sacrificed in exchange for the others!”

Immediately bursts of uproar broke out among the celestials as they began to discuss their last minute stratagems or trying to adapt their current stratagems!

Lele laughed softly, “Even though our strategist Yunzi is not here, we still have the Universal Old Man!”

Lingfeng smiled weakly, “I believe that is just a one off burst shot of brilliant.”

The Universal Old Man was beaming proudly to himself as he looked at the Sagess Ai as he asked, “Ai, what do you think?”

The Goddess Aiel or Sagess Ai ignored him but she was also thinking rapidly!

Shen Xingyue noticed that the Yang Min the Exalt Heaven Fairy was tapping her fingers.

She laughed softly, “Sister Yang, back in the lower realm you are known for your intelligence and for your brilliant mind. Now that Yunzi isn’t with us, perhaps you can help us to come up with a plan?”

Shi Shi nodded, “If it is Yang Min then the plan will surely be good!”

Jing’Er nodded with a bold smile, “Min’Er is for sure one of the most brilliant tactician mind!”

Han Lin tapped her foot, “Jing’Er, don’t forget that your sister Yang Min is with the Tranquil City while you are with the Celestial Aiel Sect now!”

Jing’Er smiled good naturally, “It doesn’t matter. We are always good sisters.”

Han Lin sighed softly, “I give up! I can’t argue with you.”

All of a sudden Lie Qing muttered, “Wait a minute. Drawing two divine

lots may not be a good thing too...”

The Goddess Isa was laughing softly.

Even though her laughter was soft and gently but it was heard pristine clear in everyone’s ears!

Everyone was stunned and startled at her internal strength!

The Goddess Isa whispered gently, “It will be terrible if both divine lots are the worst possible outcome.”

Her words had suddenly struck everyone like a thunderbolt!

Chapter 134: The Divine Lot

A large golden tripod had been placed in the stairs below the golden platform!

And behind the large golden tripod was a large map of the Stellar Sanctuary with the gates clearly marked with numbers!

The Lord Supreme reverberated throughout the Golden Ascension Hall, “There will be twenty-four divine lots inside this golden urn. Once all twenty-four divine lots have been drawn, the lots will be re-cast back again. We shall let the major celestial clans that are in the golden seating position pick the divine lot first. Naturally, that will also include the Holy Ascension Sect.”

There were nine other celestial clans that were seated at the golden platform; they were the Mythical Seal Clan, Infinity Sword Celestial Clan, Tranquil City, Celestial Aiel Sect, Erudite Sect, Wind Chimes Sect, East Verdant Sect, White Pristine Clan and the Hegemon Clan.

Everyone was gasping!

Whether it was drawing one divine lot or two divine lots, it did not matter for these ten clans!

The Northern Tyrant who had a seat at the silver platform muttered aloud, “If we are unlucky then we won’t go in with one of the major orthodox celestial clans...”

The truth was that the Northern Tyrant had never been to the Stellar Sanctuary. He had thought that all the celestial clans that had gathered with the Holy Ascension Sect would be going in together!

So this time it was actually his first time. He knew how perilous the Stellar Sanctuary was; every time the Stellar Sanctuary had appeared, only less than a hundred celestials survived the trip.

What was mystifying was that none of the Celestials seemed willing to share anything that they had seen inside!

That was why he had hoped to follow an experienced celestial clan first

so that he could take all necessary precautions!

But the Lord Supreme had made it very clearly. The bigger the group, the higher was the risk!

But of course there was something else that was quite explicit but was never openly mentioned. It actually made more sense to enter all twenty-four gates of the Stellar Sanctuary rather than just a single gate for a number of reasons. Firstly, there were more celestial treasures to be shared and if one of the gates was a dead end then everyone would not perish together!

The White Ape Scholar looked coldly at Yi Ping's direction before humming coldly to the visible hearing of the Northern Tyrant and all the others that were nearby, "That may not be the case. If we follow one of the more experienced celestial clans, it will be difficult to seize the celestial treasures for ourselves."

The White Ape Scholar was a top exponent of the Celestial Solstice Clan. He had a grudge with Yi Ping and for the past year he had been practicing his Sovereign Martial Force. He had a lucky break and had succeeded in raising his martial force to a new staging level.

The Celestial Solstice Clan was late for the meet and had just arrived just a few days ago.

"I have been to the Stellar Sanctuary and have survived so there is nothing to worry about," Wan An said coldly.

Wan An was the Domain Lord of the Celestial Solstice Clan and his influence in the Celestial Realm was not beneath the seven major orthodox celestial clans!

The Northern Tyrant smiled coldly, "You must have found quite a few celestial treasures in the Stellar Sanctuary to be this conceit..."

Wan An smirked coldly.

At this moment Old Hare the grand patriarch of the Mythical Seal Clan who was also an Ancient Celestial laughed aloud, "Let the Mythical Seal Clan be the first to draw the divine lot then!"

He had leapt down from the platform!

The Lord Supreme nodded.

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage asked, "One or two divine lot?"

Old Hare laughed jovially, "Just one. This time only two of the elders of the Mythical Seal Clan will accompany me."

He rolled up his sleeves and then laughed aloud as he reached into the golden urn to pick a divine lot!

A golden metal slip was seen in his hands as he flashed it to Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage who said aloud, "Number three!"

Many of the celestials were thinking, "If our divine lot is also number three, with Old Hare's amicable personality and experienced guidance, this gate is probably safer than going with the Holy Ascension Sect..."

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage asked, "Next?"

Lady Snowflake rose up as she smiled sweetly, "Alas! Unfortunately the Erudite Sect is a little too weak. We may have been offered the golden seats but our martial strength is even lower than the bronze seats!"

There were several jovial rumblings from the crowd!

Lady Snowflake laughed softly before she said, "Therefore the Erudite Sect has decided to abstain!"

Vengeful God Shuntian from the Hegemon Clan had also rose up to say, "The Hegemon Clan will abstain!"

Thousands of celestial practitioners were startled!

They had all expected the Vengeful God Shuntian to go to the Stellar Sanctuary!

It was because the Hegemon Clan was also one of the stronger celestial clans in the Celestial Realm!

The Lord Supreme nodded quietly at the Vengeful God Shuntian.

The Lord Supreme asked, "Who else?"

Lingfeng whispered to Yi Ping, “For him to give up that will only means that his injuries and several of his clan protégés are not light.”

Yi Ping nodded as he recalled the fight that day when the Vengeful God Shuntian was injured by Maiden Ziyan.

He whispered, “Lingfeng, I think I should go alone...”

Lingfeng gave him a cold glance, “Don’t forget that other than the Universal Old Man and I, none of you have been there before.”

Lie Qing laughed softly, “With Lingfeng around, we have nothing to be afraid of. Just go and take the divine lot!”

Yi Ping nodded as he leapt down the platform.

At the same time the Sagess Ai had also leapt from the platform as she laughed softly, “It seems that I should let the Lord of the Tranquil City have the first pick.”

Yi Ping bowed respectfully with his hands, “You can go first.”

The Sagess Ai laughed softly, “Then I shall not decline your kind offer.”

She immediately said as she reached for the divine lot, “The Celestial Aiel Sect will pick just one divine lot.”

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage declared, “Number one!”

The Sagess Ai laughed, “It seems that we get the closest position! Woes to those that have to travel for three days to the furthest gate!”

The Sagess Ai looked shyly at Yi Ping, “It is your turn now.”

Yi Ping nodded as he turned around to look at Yixian, Lingfeng, Lele, Lie Qing, Youxue, Shi Shi, Shen Xingyue...”

Yu’Er smiled shyly as she whispered softly, “Master Yi Ping, how are you?”

Mei’Er was also whispering softly, “Good luck! We will be going to the Stellar Sanctuary too.”

Yi Ping was startled, “Not you too. It is too dangerous...”

Yu'Er smiled, "Let fate decides our destiny. Moreover, Ye Yin will be with us. Let us hope that we can meet in the Stellar Sanctuary..."

Ye Yin the Ascension Goddess was looking at the Sagess Ai and was quiet all this while.

She whispered exasperatingly, "Ping'Er, it is good to see you again but I don't think you miss me as much!"

Even though her voice was softly whispered but to the Lord Supreme, Reverend Sacred Sage, Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage, the Sagess Ai, Yu'Er, Mei'Er and even the four Ascendant Priests, her shy words resounded within their earshot!

They had not expected the Ascension Goddess to be so bold!

Ye Yin had a tinge of flush as she looked at Yi Ping shyly, "Never mind I will forgive you. Goodness knows if we are all going to survive this trip or not. I hope we do!"

Yi Ping was startled, "Ye Yin, you are really going to the Stellar Sanctuary?"

Ye Yin nodded, "This is a once in a lifetime chance and moreover I am now an ancient practitioner. If I don't find some useful celestial artefacts to aid me then I probably would not survive my next heavenly tribulation. Moreover I have been preparing for this day."

Yi Ping sighed softly and was startled that the Lord Supreme had suddenly patted him on his shoulder.

The Lord Supreme said, "There is always a chance that you can all meet in the Stellar Sanctuary. I understand you perfectly."

He looked at Yu'Er and Mei'Er quietly.

How could he not understand? He had been trying to persuade Yu'Er and Mei'Er not to go too!

The Ascension Goddess laughed softly, "Ping'Er, quickly pick the divine lot. We surely meet in the Stellar Sanctuary. It is because you are the righteous man..."

She wanted to say the righteous man that would aid her to overcome the Stellar Sanctuary but she remembered her vows so she quickly said, "...the righteous man in my heart. I will surely sniff you out!"

Yi Ping muttered, "That is a promise then! I will choose only a divine lot!"

He reached out and picked up a divine lot!

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage proclaimed, "Number twenty-four!"

Yi Ping was startled, "The last divine lot. We have to travel so far..."

The Stellar Sanctuary was colossal and spanned several mountain ranges!

In order to reach the other end of the Stellar Sanctuary would require at least three days! Or probably a week!

The Sagess Ai laughed softly, "Great! We are so near to each other!"

Yi Ping was bewildered, "We are near? I have drawn the last divine lot..."

Ye Yin said coolly, "The furthest divine lot is actually between the twelve and the fourteen. The shape of the Stellar Sanctuary is actually round so in actual fact, number twenty-four is actually quite a close distance from the number one divine lot."

Yi Ping muttered, "I get it now..."

The Sagess Ai laughed softly, "So we can actually travel together. The map indicates that we do have to travel on the same mountain course!"

Yi Ping could only smile weakly...

Old Venerable Vanquishing Sage said, "Who is next?"

The Immortal Saint of Swords said, "The Infinity Sword Celestial Clan will be next. We will draw two divine lots."

Two divine lots!

That was so astonishing that loud rumblings could be heard throughout the Golden Ascension Hall!

The Immortal Saint of Swords smirked coldly, “I have never liked to go in a big group and prefer to go alone. Yunzi, go and draw two divine lots on our behalf.”

Yunzi said quietly, “Yes, grand protégé master!”

She leapt down gently as she walked toward Yi Ping, the Lord Supreme and the Sagess Ai.

With a gentle smile, she said to Yi Ping, Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Yu’Er and the Ascension Goddess, “Ping’Er and my good sisters, good luck!”

Yu’Er muttered, “Yunzi, you are going to the Stellar Sanctuary?”

Yunzi shook her head, “This time, only my grand protégé master and the Immortal Sword Sages will be going. My grand protégé master says that I have much to learn and I should stay to succeed their mantle. It is bound to be chaotic in the next few months when the new leadership of the Celestial Realm will surely try to exert their new influence. My role is to stabilize and ensure the stability of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan.”

Yi Ping was relieved to hear it that he said excitedly, “That is a good thing! Yunzi, I will surely come back to see you again even if I have to traverse the high mountains!”

Yunzi was almost beaming with tears as she nodded gently.

She quickly said, “Soon!”

As she said that, she had reached out and picked two divine lots from the golden urn!

Old Venerable Vanquishing Sage proclaimed, “Number ten and Number twenty-one!”

Many of the celestial practitioners had secretly taken note of these two gate numbers!

It was quickly followed by the Wind Chimes Sect, the East Verdant Sect and the White Pristine Clan who picked number six, nineteen and eighteen respectively!

Ouyang Feipeng the Windy Blade of the Wind Chimes Sect was

overheard saying to his protégé leader the Black Demon Windblade, “Number six. This will take us two days at the earliest to reach.”

The Black Demon Windblade nodded before smiling to the Lord Supreme, “It seems that only the Holy Ascension Sect is left to pick the divine lot.”

The Lord Supreme and the Black Demon Windblade were old acquaintances too. At one point of the time the Lord Supreme had even saved his life and presented him a demon blade from the Stellar Sanctuary.

The Black Demon Windblade did not disappoint the Lord Supreme. With his skills and resolute, he had over the course of several centuries established the Wind Chimes Sect as one of the seven major celestial clans in the Celestial Realm!

The Lord Supreme laughed aloud, “Indeed! The Holy Ascension Sect will pick two divine lots!”

This result was not entirely unexpected.

The Lord Supreme put his hand into the golden urn before flashing two divine lots in his hand.

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage declared, “Number seven and number eleven!”

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage said, “The clans that are in the silver section will draw first followed by those in the bronze section.”

All the celestial practitioners began to mutter nervously among themselves. Now it was time for them to pick the divine lot accordingly!

Ten out of twenty-four gates were taken by the major celestial orthodox clans!

Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage laughed, “So, can I have all the representatives from all the celestial clans that are going to the Stellar Sanctuary to step forward first?”

Only thirty-eight clans had stepped forward out of two hundred clans!

The draw was quickly concluded.

It seemed that for each of the gates of the Stellar Sanctuary, there would only be two celestial clans!

Including the clans that were in the golden section, only forty-six clans had the courage to storm the Stellar Sanctuary!

It was not a surprise to Old Reverend Vanquisher Sage and to the Lord Supreme.

It was because most of the celestials that went to the Stellar Sanctuary would never survive the trip especially for the first comers!

And most of these celestial clans that did not go were actually preserving their own strength and waiting for an opportunity to exert an ever greater influence should these forty-six clans met with a mishap!

An additional two dozen other celestial clans had decided to abstain from the divine lot because they felt the odds of surviving were too low. If the Lord Supreme would lead them into the Stellar Sanctuary then more would surely be tempted to join!

But half of the celestial clans had secretly hatched another plan of their own. They had secretly join hands and would secretly attempt to enter one of the safer gates after a careful observation...

The Deadly Wanderer was laughing, "My luck isn't that bad. I got twenty-forty. So Master Yi Ping, we can make the trip together!"

Yi Ping said, "You are alone?"

The Deadly Wanderer sighed softly, "The Longevity Clan is but a small clan. I have come with a few protégés but only I will be entering the Stellar Sanctuary..."

The Northern Tyrant muttered, "Number five..."

A gray faced priest from the Raven Swords Sect bowed respectfully to the Northern Tyrant, "I am Priest Xuquan. It is our honor to join hands in hands with the Northern Continent Clan!"

Wan An was the Domain Lord of the Celestial Solstice Clan had drawn

the number six draw, the same as the Wind Chimes Sect.

The White Ape Scholar laughed, "What luck!"

Ouyang Feipeng who dislike the White Ape Scholar and was caution of the intentions of the Celestial Solstice Clan hummed coldly, "What luck."

The Black Demon Windblade looked coldly at Wan An, "Let's put aside our feuds aside first. The Stellar Sanctuary is our first priority."

Wan An laughed coldly, "We should decide first how are we going to distribute the treasures of the Stellar Sanctuary first."

Yi Ping was not paying attention to their rivalries.

Instead he was taking a last look at Yu'Er, Mei'Er and Ye Yin with a melancholy look...

Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage said to Yi Ping, "We will pick the number seven entrance and there will be six of us. Other than I, the Eclipse Heaven Goddess, the Axis Heaven Goddess, Reverend Sacred Sage, the Ascension Goddess and the Fiery Phoenix will be in the same group. The Lord Supreme will go alone."

Yi Ping was startled, "Xingyue is going with you?! Didn't she get expelled from the Holy Ascension Sect?"

Shen Xingyue had quietly walked next to Yi Ping, "I was reinitiated again a few days ago. Please be careful."

She stole a glance at the Heavens and the Universal Old Man before adding, "I know that you are in good hands. But I got to help Yu'Er, Mei'Er and Ye Yin. Or else, the Four Aggregates Sword Formation that we have been practicing won't be completed. Do not worry..."

Yi Ping said approvingly, "You too. If you are with them, I feel safer..."

Reverend Sacred Sage laughed aloud, "Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage and I are experienced hands in the Stellar Sanctuary and we will surely guide them to safety."

Yi Ping immediately bowed respectfully to Reverend Sacred Sage with profuse thanks, "Senior, let me extend to you my thanks!"

Reverend Sacred Sage smiled warmly, “Definitely!”

The Goddess Isa who was watching from the top of the platform had an uneasy feeling as she looked quietly at Reverend Sacred Sage...

A dedicated maiden, Lady Winter Plum of the Three Plum Sect was also offering her thanks to Reverend Sacred Sage, “Our divine lot is the same as yours. I will be coming with four of my protégés. Please do take care of us as well!”

Reverend Sacred Sage laughed, “Definitely, definitely!”

Chapter 135: The Eternal Goddess

At an unknown location of the lofty peaks of the Ninth Heavens, there were crimson rainbows everywhere except for a dark spot in the sky.

That dark spot was the darkness of the Stellar Sanctuary and it had descended from the Immortal Realm!

On this lofty peak there was a huge palace and it was constructed by huge blocks of white celestium stones. Even the stairs that led to the white palace of this place was made entirely of white celestium blocks!

If anyone had been to the epicenter of the Astronomic Stellar Palace before, this place was eerily similar but was much grander!

And this white palace had a name and it was called the Eternal City!

A forbidding heavenly maiden with three pink petals on her forehead, dressed in a golden phoenix and green peacock silken robe was standing quietly on the gigantic white platform. She was tapping gently on her long white sword scabbard and she was overlooking the vast horizon.

The white celestium stones here were even more exquisite than the epicenter of the Stellar Sanctuary and were engraved with elegant images of Kirins, Phoenixes and Peacocks!

She was holding a small golden Kirin cub in her arms and was looking at the dimming Pinnacle Star and was sighing melancholy, "Xiao Ping, you have sensed it as well? The Stellar Sanctuary is about to open soon. But this time, he is finally here."

Xiao Ping was a newly born Kirin cub and he was curbing playfully in her arms. The mother of this newly born cub was also the same Golden Kirin that had escaped from the Epicenter of the Astronomically Stellar Formation with this extraordinary stunning maiden.

And this forbidding heavenly maiden was none other than Maiden Ziyan. But Ziyan was not her real name. It was a name that she had picked to suit the occasion.

She muttered softly, "I am the Goddess Celestial Alice of the Ninth

Heavens. This is the Ninth Heavens Realm that no ordinary celestial practitioners are able to traverse...”

Suddenly she was smiling to herself, “Well, almost no ordinary celestial practitioners except...”

She closed her eyes as she whispered gently to the winds, “Come...”

A golden flare had suddenly burst forth from the clouds!

It was a gigantic golden phoenix!

She patted the playful Kirin cub as she said gently, “The time has come for me to make amends for my mistakes...”

As she looked up in the heavens and awaited the golden phoenix, she began to recall that day fondly...

There were two intruders!

Two celestial practitioners had actually dared to ascend the stellar steps that led to her Eternal City.

She was startled.

Not only was it near impossible for any ordinary celestial practitioners to reach the Ninth Heavens, the stellar steps were also guarded by nine heavenly Black Kirins!

Out of curiosity she decided to take a look at the intruders herself.

After she bade her two guardian Golden Kirins to remain invisible, she walked calmly to the top of the stellar stairs as she observed the battle below.

A fine looking and white hair man in black garb was fighting ambidextrous with two black swords and another maiden that wielded a long curved sword were fighting seven Black Kirins at the same time!

The other monstrous two Black Kirins were howling in pain on the ground!

She had of course recognized the maiden with the long curved sword as the Goddess Isa of the Eighth Heavens.

She whispered softly to command the Black Kirins to halt their attacks and to move aside.

She was annoyed naturally so she said coldly, “Isa, you dare to bring a stranger to my forbidden sacred ground? How dare you break the sacrilegious laws of the Goddess Theocracy Sect? Moreover, you have dared to bring a dark celestial practitioner to my presence?”

The Goddess Isa panted breathlessly as she said to the man next to her, “She is the Goddess Celestial Alice. Be respectful to her. She is the one that you want to see!”

The fine looking man seemed to be startled at the golden shimmering aura of the Goddess Celestial Alice who had appeared to them in a white robe that was adorned with intricate designs of nine golden phoenixes!

The Goddess Isa answered respectfully, “Sister, he is a good man. He needs to seek your audience so hear him out first.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice hummed coldly, “Whatever it is, he has no edict or right to come to this place nor he has the right to say anything.”

The fine looking man rubbed his nose as he smiled awkwardly, “So you are the Goddess Celestial Alice...I am the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos. My respects to the Eternal Goddess...”

But the Goddess Celestial Alice pretended not to hear him as she continued to add coldly, “Isa, have you forgotten what happens to the Goddess Aiel, the Goddess Ishtar and Goddess Astarte?”

The Goddess Isa replied coldly, “The Goddess Aiel is banished to the lower realm for breaking the sacred laws of the Goddess Theocracy while the Goddess Ishtar and Astarte they are...gone for good.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice said coldly, “It is good that you have not forgotten.”

The Goddess Isa answered equally coldly, “You don’t have to remind me. All I request from you is to hear him out first.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice replied, “What if I refuse?”

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “Don’t forget that you are not the only one with an immortal sword. My Divine Constellation Sword may not lose to you!”

The Goddess Celestial Alice asked gently, “You are threatening me?”

The Goddess Isa said coldly, “Just because you are lucky enough to be the Goddess of the Ninth Heavens doesn’t mean that I am inferior to you.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice said, “That is my destiny and destiny does not reverse. It is a fact and you have to accept it.”

She smiled coldly, “The ultimate celestial wrath isn’t as easy as you think it is to overcome. We should meditate to further our divine state. Mortals should also cultivate themselves and depend on their own state of divinity to reach the Ninth Heavens. There is no room for dark celestials in the Immortal Realm.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice aura had turned to a killing malevolent!

She said coldly, “It is our duty to destroy all evils and all heretics.”

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos interrupted with good humor, “You are much more stunning that I have been expecting.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice hummed coldly, “Flattery will not get you anywhere.”

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos smiled, “Look, I have even named my swords after you! This is the Celestial Antonym Alice and this is the Celestial Synonym Alice...”

There was a sudden burst of martial startling martial outburst that radiated from the Goddess Celestial Alice when her eyes flickered deep golden as she said coldly, “How dare you!”

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos said, “And one more thing. I am not a dark celestial despite my white hair. It just turned white when I surpassed the Greater Cosmos Position.”

The Goddess Celestial Alice was in disbelief, “You manage to surpass the Greater Cosmos Position?”

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos answered casually, "I was just lucky."

The Goddess Isa said shyly as she looked at him, "He has made his way alone to the Ninth Heavens. I was surprised as you do when he has made it to the Eighth Heavens. Like us, he is an immortal practitioner."

The Goddess Celestial Alice asked in a mild tone this time, "What is it that you want?"

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos said, "I want to enter the Stellar Sanctuary and I seek the Universal Force. And also a way back to the lower realm. I have heard that the Pangu Clan and the Dragon Clan are now fighting with each other. I need to stop them..."

The Goddess Celestial Alice smiled coldly, "You seem to have a lot of requests and all these requests are all forbidden knowledge. If you are already here, you are not supposed to know what happens to the lower realm. Isa, do you know that you have broken our sacred commandants by telling him? This will also affect your future attainment. How foolish you are!"

She added, "You have better forget all of it. Today, you are not going to leave here. No one else is allowed to know about the Stellar Sanctuary and its secrets..."

In an instant she had summoned the Astronomic Eulogy Divine Sword as it flew down from the heavens with a thunderous impact!

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos gasped, "Wait!"

The Goddess Isa said panicky, "There is no time no lose. Quickly take her down before she starts to unseal the seven seals of her Astronomic Eulogy Divine Sword! Her seventh seal is the Celestial Wrath..."

The Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos smiled weakly, "I don't want to hurt her..."

The Goddess Isa replied with a great sense of urgency, "Then we will surely die! Hit her with everything you got before she exploits your weakness. She is protected by the Phoenix Emblem, Peacock Eyes Golden

Silk Dress and is impervious to most martial forces. Be wary of that! And watch out for the two invisible Golden Kirins behind her!”

Chapter 136: The Crimson Gates of the Stellar Sanctuary

Three groups were walking rapidly in the mountain paths below and they were looking for the entrance of the Stellar Sanctuary.

There was supposed to be a fourth group but the Three Banners Clan had suddenly abstained after getting a divine lot with the Celestial Aiel Sect.

If anyone was there in the Golden Ascension Hall and got the same draw as the Celestial Aiel Sect, they may abstain or decide to travel on their own too!

An icy demeanor maiden had stood guard over the Sagess Ai in the Golden Ascension Hall!

Even though no one had tried to ask, quite a number of celestial exponents had actually fought with her and the Celestial Aiel Sect previously!

She was not only the number one celestial exponent of the Celestial Aiel Sect, she was also one of seven most powerful newly celestial fighters in the Celestial Realm!

Not only did she had the reputation of besting Old Reverend Vanquishing Sage, she had also beaten quite a number of the very top fighters in the Celestial Realm to arrive at her present position. Indeed she had a fearsome reputation!

And the Celestial Mistress had a fearsome reputation of deploying poisons to control the various celestial clans that were under the sphere of influence of the Celestial Aiel Sect.

Also this Goddess Isa whose glares was so piercingly chilling that she could send a shiver down the spine of even the most highly attained celestial.

Therefore there were few celestial clans that wanted to be in the same

group as the Celestial Aiel Sect!

The Three Banners Clan was not the only clan that had abstained after drawing the divine lot. All in all, an additional ten celestial clans had suddenly abstained after seeing the results of the divine lots!

All these clans had abstained for a number of reasons such as an existing feud with each other, fear of the other or simply because they disliked each other.

Those that had decided to go to the Stellar Sanctuary had all either grouped themselves or set off as a solitary group.

Again, the reasons for doing so were many.

Even if any celestial clans were deemed lucky enough to pick the same lot as the Lord Supreme or the Immortal Sword of Saints, chances were that these two eminent Ancient Celestials had already set off as a solitary individual without waiting for anyone!

As for Yi Ping group, he had quietly grouped with the Sagess Ai and the Deadly Wanderer as they made their way to the gates of the Stellar Sanctuary.

With Yi Ping were the Heaveness, the Universal Old Man, Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing, Youxue, Shi Shi and Yang Min.

With the Sagess Ai were Han Lin, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Jing'Er and the Goddess Isa.

The Deadly Wanderer had dismissed his clan protégés halfway when several of them were injured fatally by the torrential winds and a landslide.

He had not intended to take them into the Stellar Sanctuary in the first place so he quickly dismissed them for their own good.

They were the last group to actually move into positions for their designated destination and were late for almost a day!

The Stellar Sanctuary would shut its gates in eighty-nine more days and would disappear from the Celestial Realm for the next few centuries or

perhaps even for a few millennium years!

Yet these three groups seemed to be unhurried!

Actually that was not Yi Ping's intentions at all. He was actually eager to enter the Stellar Sanctuary; he was not only curious about the Stellar Sanctuary, he wanted to overcome the challenges inside and to aid Yu'Er, Mei'Er, Ye Yin and Shen Xingyue!

Lingfeng had said coolly, "Let wait three days when the Stellar Sanctuary has completely descended before we move on."

Yi Ping was startled as he asked, "What if others are to enter the Stellar Sanctuary first?"

Lingfeng just smiled quietly before she nodded to the rest of the maidens.

All the other maidens were all giggling and soon even the Goddess Isa and the Sagess Ai were doing the same too!

The Sagess Ai said, "We are also setting off three days later. Why don't we set off together?"

The Deadly Wanderer was stunned as he protested weakly, "But we will miss the..."

Youxue said coldly, "One day less, one day more. Does it matter? If you are so eager to enter the Stellar Sanctuary, you can go alone!"

Jing'Er and Han Lin were laughing softly even as the Celeste Wind Maiden was muttering softly, "That is a good idea. I don't want to let that happen either..."

Lele laughed merrily as she brushed aside her long hair while winking at Lie Qing!

Lie Qing laughed softly, "Me either!"

Yi Ping was smiling weakly.

He knew that Lingfeng had used her Great Divine Whisper to secretly whisper her intentions to everyone.

With his current progression in his Emptiness Translucence, it was not hard to know what Lingfeng was up to. Unfortunately, he had not reached the level of attainment that could allow him to eavesdrop on her Great Whispering Divine Skill!

But when he asked the Universal Old Man for a reason, the Universal Old Man simply shrugged his shoulder and said. "There is a reason for everything. If you think hard enough, you will know why. Otherwise continue to meditate for the next three days for the answer. Treat it as a trial to test your current state of divinity."

Somehow Yi Ping felt that somewhere something was amiss...

Three days later, all the maidens were wearing a curtain silk hat that reached all the way to their legs!

Once the Stellar Sanctuary had descended, it seemed even more massive and forbidden looking than what Yi Ping had first imagined!

The ominous shape of the Stellar Sanctuary was now lurking overhead as circular lightning arcs exploded across the skies.

The huge gloomy Stellar Sanctuary had completely landed and crashed alongside the hundreds of tall mountains, topping mountains, destroying old pathways and creating new pathways!

Its massive impact had created such a terrifying tidal force that several of the massive towering white celestium towers of the Holy Ascension Sect were toppled over and the entire vicinity was strewn with plume of dirt and dust!

Yi Ping muttered, "Now I know why they want to set off three days later..."

The Deadly Wanderer was startled as he asked curiously, "I have been thinking of the same thing for the last three days as well. Have you discovered anything? I must say that the wisdom of the Heavenness is simply beyond me!"

The Universal Old Man almost choked as he smiled weakly.

Yi Ping heaved a soft sigh even as Lingfeng said sharply, "What a surprise that Yi Ping is able to second guess it. Hmph! He does seem to be getting smarter nowadays."

She smiled alluringly at Yi Ping as she winked at him.

Lie Qing laughed softly, "Finally there is someone dumber than Ping'Er. But let him take a guess first. He could be wrong after all."

Yi Ping shifted uneasy as he looked at all these maidens before he said coolly, "I am not blind. You are all afraid of getting dirty. If the Stellar Sanctuary had crashed while we are going toward it then your clothes will all be very dirty."

Lie Qing was really surprised, "Why are you so smart now?"

Han Lin was clapping her hands, "That's right, that's right! Bingo! It is the noblest of reasons!"

The Deadly Wanderer was stunned at the reason. He was really not expecting it!

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly, "I am not smart but I have been with all of you for far too long..."

He was naturally unhappily for he was in a great hurry to rush to the Stellar Sanctuary.

But somehow these maidens did not seem to be in a hurry!

Yixian the Celestial Fairy was looking at Yi Ping with gentle eyes. They were not in a hurry to go to the Stellar Sanctuary because they were not in a hurry to face the challenges in there. The challenges of the Stellar Sanctuary would well be their last!

Rather all these maidens would rather spend some quiet time to be with Yi Ping. For the first time since they had arrived at the Celestial Realm, they had felt at peace.

Maybe that was the calmness before the storm!

All of a sudden the Celeste Wind Maiden interrupted sharply, "There is a strong stench of blood ahead!"

Lele immediately said, "Go!"

The Celeste Wind Maiden, Lele and Youxue had sped ahead!

Yixian was quickly behind them as she warned them gently, "Be careful!"

The Goddess Isa was not slow to react either, "I am spoiling for a fight. Wait for me!"

The five of them vanished instantly as they moved away from the group!

When Yi Ping saw their swiftness movement display, he could not help feeling in awe even though it was not the first time that he had witnessed their swiftness skill.

Immediately Yi Ping and the rest of the group sped after them!

When the Deadly Wanderer saw their swiftness skill, he was stunned.

He was shouting, "Wait for..." But before he could finish, everyone had vanished into the fog!

He was left muttering, "Be careful of the treacherous cliffs and move with caution..."

After trying to follow them for a while, he sighed softly as he stroked his beard, "I think I am lost and has been abandoned..."

He was a golden celestial and his swiftness speed was not weak at all.

But still he could not catch up with them. All of a sudden, he felt old...

It was not before long that Yi Ping could finally catch up with Yixian, Youxue, Lele, the Goddess Isa and the Celeste Wind Maiden but that was only because they had stopped in their tracks!

A crimson and cinnabar colored gate stood towering over them and scattered all around the gate were scores of dead celestial practitioners that belonged to the factions of the Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan!

Yi Ping was appalled at the sight even as he tried to look into pitch black gate of the Stellar Sanctuary, "There are so many dead...what is

going on here...have they forgotten about the peace treaty?"

Youxue hummed coldly, "Peace treaty? Only for convenient sake."

Han Lin took a look at their wounds and said, "There are more dark celestials here than golden celestials. It appears that they are a vanguard for a much larger parties."

The Sagess Ai said, "It seems that we have company inside waiting for us."

Yang Min scanned the dead bodies as she said quietly, "The Golden Eagle Clan, the Silver Spear Protégé Clan, the Great Heroes Clan...these are the clans that are affiliated with the Martial Deviant Clan."

Han Lin added, "And these are the protégés of the Divine Poison Sect and the Curved Swords Clan. They are affiliated with the Celestial Aiel Sect."

Yang Min was looking at the Stellar Sanctuary which lay beyond the crimson gate as she said coolly, "So it seems that someone else has already taken the first initiative and enter the Stellar Sanctuary. We are a little late."

Jing'Er smiled, "We are never early in the first place. It is really within our expectations."

Han Lin laughed softly as she looked at Yi Ping, "No need to worry for us. This is our gate. You have better hurried and watch over your gate. I suspect that your gate has also been taken!"

Yi Ping was smiling bitterly.

It had taken them more than a day to find a path to this gate. Even though the perimeter of the Stellar Sanctuary was circular in diameter and seemed as easy to follow, it was not as easy as it seemed. If they had taken a wrong path to climb up to the wrong perimeter of the Stellar Sanctuary and could not find any gate, then they would have to descend down the winding path again!

And moreover the constant earthquakes and the thick fogs had the

effect of severely impaired their movements and their visibilities!

That was why they had taken more than a day to find the entrance of the Stellar Sanctuary!

The Sagess Ai said quietly as she looked at the crimson gate that was in plain view in front of them, "We have arrived and it is time for our groups to part ways."

Jing'Er nodded quietly as she looked at Shi Shi and Yang Min before stealing a shy glance at Yi Ping!

Shi Shi and Yang Min were also looking at Jing'Er with woeful expressions!

The three of them were the Three Heaven Fairies of the Melody Palace and were extremely close to one another. When they had ascended to the Celestial Realm, they had gone on their own separate ways and until recently was finally together again. But today they had to part once again.

Shi Shi muttered, "I wonder in which year, which month, which day can we meet again after this parting..."

"Sisters!" Jing'Er cried out aloud.

Jing'Er could not hold back tears anymore as she rushed into their embraces as she sobbed with such melancholy sadness that even Lele and Yi Ping could not hold back their hot tears!

Yang Min said tearfully, "Be strong! We will surely have the chance to meet again!"

Yang Min was looking at the Sagess Ai before she took a step toward her as she said, "Jing'Er has told me that you are actually Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears. Our respects to grand matriarch!"

Yang Min was a protégé of the Melody Palace and the founder of the Melody Palace was none other than Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears!

Shi Shi was also bowing her respects with her hands, "Our respects to grand matriarch!"

The Sagess Ai was smiling weakly, "What is it? It is not like I won't

return.”

Yi Ping bowed with his hands to her, “Farewell and may we meet again!”

The Goddess Isa was trembling, “You...” But she kept quiet immediately!

The Sagess Ai, the Goddess Isa, Jing’Er the Chaste Lunar Maiden, Xiao Qian the Celeste Wind Maiden and Han Lin were all looking at Yi Ping reluctantly.

The Universal Old Man was sighing softly, “Ai, be really careful...”

The Sagess Ai looked at the Universal Old Man from head to bottom, “You are sure that you are not coming with me?”

The Universal Old Man shook his head, “You know that the Heaveness and I are inseparable. Moreover she has saved my life all too many times...”

Lingfeng flipped her long sleeves over before saying nonchalantly, “If you want to follow her, I don’t mind at all. We once vowed to undertake the Stellar Sanctuary together with the Great Sage Lord. But he is no longer with us now. So that vow no longer stands. You are free to choose again.”

The Universal Old Man was startled as he rubbed his chin as he looked at the Heaveness and the Sagess Ai...

The Sagess Ai raised her thin eyebrows to say, “No need! We are fine on our own!”

The Goddess Isa smirked coldly, “With a man around, it won’t be convenient at all.”

The Universal Old man smiled weakly, “That is true...”

Everyone was looking uneasy. It was obvious that they were all reluctant to part ways!

To Yi Ping, he was actually reluctant to part with the Sagess Ai. It was because he had yet to repay her for saving Yixian’s life. If they were not able to meet again then he could never be able to repay her the debt of gratuitous that he had owed her!

But instead Yi Ping sighed softly as he looked at the Sagess Ai, “Yes, it is almost time. You ought to be careful...I will repay your kindness in my next life if I am not able to do so in this lifetime...”

He had no right to stop her from leaving...

Moreover this was their designed gate and not his!

All of a sudden the Goddess Isa had given Yi Ping a tight slap and startling everyone!

It was so sudden that Yi Ping was completely taken by surprise even though he had heard the windforce!

But the real reason why Yi Ping was completely taken by surprise was because the Goddess Isa had no malevolent intention and also because he was too unfocused!

She had burst into tears all of a sudden!

She was kicking and hammering Yi Ping with her fists as she said tearfully, “You! Why this talk about the next life again?! If you want to repay her kindness, can you do it in this lifetime instead?”

Yi Ping was stunned as he muttered, “But...”

Lie Qing was looking at Youxue and Lele...

Why was the Goddess Isa so emotional?

Even Lingfeng was startled by her as she thought, “What is going on? This Goddess Isa doesn’t seem to be the type that can be this emotional especially for someone with her attainment...”

The Sagess Ai sighed softly as she thought melancholy, “Isa, after so many years have passed...you still cannot let it go? You are not the one that that the Dark Lord loves but rather it is the...”

Yixian was saying gently to the Goddess Isa, “Is something wrong?”

The Goddess Isa quickly wiped away her tears as she turned around. But she continued to tremble emotionally with soft sniffing, “Nothing... nothing...nothing!”

Yi Ping was completely at a loss as he muttered weakly, "I...am...sorry..."

The Goddess Isa cried out with her back facing him, "You did nothing wrong. Take care and don't die!"

"Wait!"

It was Lie Qing!

Everyone was startled and looked at her curiously!

Lie Qing laughed softly, "Actually, why don't we go as a group into this wicked looking gate together?"

Yi Ping protested weakly, "But the divine lot..."

Lie Qing laughed jovially as she looked at everyone, "Don't you all get it by now? The divine lots, the designated gates and the groupings do not matter at all!"

Yang Min and Youxue had a sudden realized as they said at the same time, "That is right!"

Lie Qing had just reminded them of something!

Lingfeng clapped her hands, "Why didn't I think of it earlier?"

Yi Ping was bewildered, "What do you mean?"

The Sagess Ai said, "Then shall we have Maiden Lie Qing to explain to us?"

Lie Qing laughed softly before she said, "Suppose we leave to find our designed gate but could not find it? You must know it may be hanging in the air or even buried by the rocks. Then won't we be forced to find another gate? If we have to find another gate then why not pick this gate in the first place?"

She smiled before adding, "Do you think that the Lord Supreme is expecting everyone to follow strictly accordingly to the divine lots and sit on the fence? Probably even as we speak, dozens of celestial clans that have abstained from the divine lot are all rushing or are already inside the Stellar Sanctuary!"

Indeed more than a hundred celestial clans had suddenly taken leave all of a sudden by giving all kinds of excuses!

The most common excuse was that they were all either escorting the allied clans or scouting for the sight of the Celestial Aiel Sect and the Martial Deviant Clan that were nearby!

Youxue added coldly, “We should have all thought of this earlier. The divine lots are but a convenient excuse for everyone to know where their enemies are going and hence avoid them. In this way, it will minimize the internal conflicts.”

Lie Qing nodded, “In fact many of the celestial practitioners have been deliberately giving secret hand gestures and expressions while in the Golden Ascension Hall. If they are not planning to go secretly into the Stellar Sanctuary, there won’t be so many that are abstaining. What is fishy is that after the divine lot has been drawn, there are ten more clans that have suddenly decided not to go to the Stellar Sanctuary.”

Lie Qing had been secretly observing everyone. Even though they had been very subtle but they could not fool her eyes!

Few were her match in the arts of subversion!

Lie Qing looked at everyone keenly, “Therefore I propose that we merge our group and simply enter the Stellar Sanctuary together. What do you all have to say about this?”

Lingfeng looked at the Sagess Ai and the Sagess Ai was looking at Lingfeng...

Finally the Sagess Ai said, “If the Heaveness wants to follow us, I don’t mind but I have to be the leader of the combined group.”

Lingfeng smiled alluring and all of a sudden she said coldly, “Fat hope!”

The Universal Old Man quickly went between the two of them as he said panicky, “At this rate we will never progress at all. Why don’t we appoint Ping’Er as temporary leader?”

The Sagess Ai and Lingfeng said at the same time, “That is fine...”

They quickly kept quiet as they looked at the rest.

The Celeste Wind Maiden said nonchalantly, "I don't mind at all."

Han Lin had quickly grabbed Yi Ping, "I don't mind too!"

Lele yawned, "I am too lazy to walk up and down in a random direction just to look for a silly entrance."

The Universal Old Man laughed jovially as he patted Yi Ping, "So let's decide it. It will be the first time that the Sagess Ai and the Heaveness have joined hands. I can imagine the odes in the future when others speak of this moment!"

But Yi Ping was looking at the Goddess Isa instead as he said quietly, "I am sorry...for causing you to be so upset. But..."

All of a sudden he knocked his fists into a tree with a loud cracking impact, "But...I really want to know more. I don't want anyone to be hurt because of me. I don't want anyone that I cherish and love to fight with each other. So please, let me know what I should know!"

The Goddess Isa turned around slowly, "You really want to know?"

Yi Ping was trembling even as he nodded, "Yes, I do! So please tell me!"

The Goddess Isa said coldly, "What past is the past. The memories of the past are no more..."

Yi Ping shook his head, "The Emptiness Translucence! If I can attain the Great Emptiness Translucence and open my Heaven Eyes then I may still have some fragments of the distant memories. Whatever little I can remember, whatever little is good..."

The Goddess Isa smirked coldly, "It is impossible..."

Yi Ping said firmly, "That is not impossible. If even Yu'Er, Mei'Er and Lingfeng can remember their past life, maybe I can too!"

The Goddess Isa was truly startled as she looked at Lingfeng, "You...can remember your past life?!"

The Sagess Ai was also startled!

Lingfeng nodded, "I don't know for Yu'Er and Mei'Er but like Yi Ping has said, my Great Emptiness Translucent is an epitome heart intricacy skill that void out all emotion like a mirror. Even though it void out all emotions but that reflection in the mirror is a reminder of the past for us to meditate upon. So it may be a possibility to remember past memories. However I must say it first. The odds are low for anyone to remember anything..."

She met the glance of the Sagess Ai as she said coolly, "The Heaveness that you know in the past is dead. I am the new Heaveness."

The Sagess Ai was in disbelief as she probed, "You have previously passed on? But how is it possible for you to regain your memories and achieve the same state of divinity so fast?!"

The Sagess Ai and the Goddess Isa exchanged startled look with each other.

They had drawn upon only one conclusion!

That the Heaveness must be an immortal practitioner in the past as well!

The Goddess Isa asked quietly, "That Yu'Er and Mei'Er...is the Eclipse and Axis Heaven Goddess?"

Lingfeng replied, "That is right."

The Goddess Isa said, "In that case, I will like to speak with them next time. Can you make the introductions..."

All of a sudden Yi Ping said to the Goddess Isa, "I know that you have the same attainment as the Goddess Celestial Alice. Can you open my Heaven Eyes for me? She had...once forcefully opened Lele's Heaven Eyes for her."

Lingfeng said, "She is different. Her heart is very pure...probably the Goddess Celestial Alice knows it as well. Even without any intervention from anyone, Lele will probably be the first one among our group to open her Heaven Eyes."

Lele laughed softly, "That is only because I am the Joyful Goddess and have the aid of the Celestial Force..."

The Goddess Isa gasped as she looked at Lele, "The Goddess Celestial Alice will actually open your Heaven Eyes for you!? So you have seen her? Is she your protégé mistress?"

Lele replied nonchalantly, "Yes I have seen her but she is not my protégé mistress. In fact, I don't know her at all."

Lele was not as foolish as she looked even though she had appeared frivolous. She had remembered that they were not supposed to reveal that the Goddess Celestial Alice may be alive after all.

It was very obvious that the Goddess Isa had an enmity with the Goddess Celestial Alice!

The Goddess Isa said quietly, "I don't believe."

Lele was startled, "You don't believe?"

Had the Goddess Isa discovered their lie?

The Goddess Isa said, "I don't believe that she will expend her martial strength to aid you at all. Do you know that by doing so, she will expend nearly all her martial strength?"

Not only Lele was stunned, Yi Ping and the rest were also stunned!

The Sagess Ai said, "There is nothing to be surprise about. No one is able to aid the other to open their Heaven Eyes. It all depends entirely on the practitioner's attainment. But if someone is able to do so, it is also not surprising how much effort is therefore required!"

All of a sudden Lele had a liking for the Goddess Celestial Alice as she murmured, "I thought that she is such a snob...I am so wrong..."

The Sagess Ai looked at Lele, "Don't be too grateful yet. If it fails then you will surely die!"

Lele laughed jovially, "It didn't happen. So that is alright!"

She deliberately touching her forehead and was intentional showing off

to Lie Qing, Yixian, Shi Shi and Yang Min as she winked at them!

The rest of the maidens could only smile weakly!

Lele was saying to Han Lin, “Look Sister Han Lin! Do you think my forehead mark is pretty?”

Han Lin forced out a smile, “Very pretty...”

The Sageess Ai sighed softly as she thought, “She doesn’t seem to get the second part into her head...”

When Yi Ping had heard that it would require the entire martial strength of the other practitioner, he had changed his mind. It was not because he was afraid of death.

No martial practitioner would give up their martial strength for another. Especially at this time!

Yi Ping managed a soft sigh as he said firmly, “Let us be on our way!”

The Universal Old Man nodded but he was soon muttering, “Someone seems to be missing...”

Just as Yi Ping had taken a step forward toward the crimson gate of the Stellar Sanctuary, he was suddenly blinded by a brilliant flash of white light and fell unconsciousness!

Everyone was startled!

The brilliant flash of white light was only visible to Yi Ping and they were all panicky as they did not know why Yi Ping had suddenly collapsed!

In Yi Ping’s consciousness, a vivid scene was seen...

A bloodied man with long white hair stumbled weakly as he leaned against a beautiful white marble wall. He was garbed in a black robe with nine golden dragons motif.

In the hands of this bloodied man were the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice!

Yi Ping had seen this man before in his dreams!

A forbidden heavenly maiden in a golden phoenix and green blue peacock silken dress had also staggered backward.

She was Maiden Ziyan!

She was saying, "Since the first time that we have met, we have been fighting with each other. Is...that what you really desire? Is this the ending that you want and desire?"

The bloodied man said, "I don't want to fight you anymore than you want to fight me. But you are always opposing me..."

Maiden Ziyan kept quiet before she finally mustered a soft whisper as tears dropped silently onto the ground, "I oppose you? Who is the one that gives you the access to the Stellar Sanctuary? Who is the one that show you my temple shrine in the lower realm so that you can imbue your divine sword with the Universal Force? I did so much for you at a cost of my own attainment..."

When Yi Ping saw her tears, he wanted to comfort her immediately but he was trapped in a dream and he was like a silent watcher...

The bloodied man muttered, "Are you the one that has injured Isa?"

Maiden Ziyan nodded quietly before saying, "I won't deny it. I only did it to prevent you from going to the Stellar Sanctuary."

The bloodied man said quietly, "Why did you do that for? I didn't believe her when she said it but now I do. I have never expected you to betray me..."

Maiden Ziyan said melancholy, "You are not readied for the Stellar Sanctuary yet. You will surely die if you try to enter the Immortal Realm. If you want to go, I won't stop opposing you."

The bloodied man said quietly, "This is my destiny..."

Maiden Ziyan interrupted, "Have you forgotten the heavenly seal that is inscribed in the Stellar Sanctuary? Only the successor to the Great God Pangu will be able to open the way to the Immortal Realm. He who seeks immortality will not get it but he will pave the way of immortality for the

others. The Great God Pangu in his dying breathe created the three Known Realm and sealed the Immortal Realm via the Stellar Sanctuary.”

The bloodied man said quietly, “You should understand. You are an immortal practitioner yourself. If I am really the successor of the Great God Pangu then that is my final destiny. The Great God Pangu gave up his immortal life to create the Three Known Realms. What I am going to do next is insignificant compared to the Great God Pangu...”

Maiden Ziyan was trembling and she was sobbing silently, “Then I will be the one to prove that you are not Pangu’s successor!”

There was a brilliant flash of light as they leapt forward to cross swords again!

Chapter 137: Inside the Stellar Sanctuary

And it is this brilliant flash of stunning light that woke Yi Ping up in cold sweat!

He found himself surrounded by all the panicky maidens who showered him with all kinds of concern!

He was startled as he stammered out, "How long have I been unconscious?"

Lele smiled warmly, "You just give us a shock! But you wake up as soon as you have fallen to the ground. That is weird..."

Yixian was inspecting his pulses tenderly as she replied gently, "Ping'Er, you appear to black out for just for a few moments. Are you feeling well? Any discomfort?"

Lie Qing was embracing him by his arm as she said tenderly, "Ping'Er, I was so worried earlier..."

Youxue heaved a soft sigh as she looked shyly at him, "Brother Ping..."

Shi Shi was wiping his cold sweat for him as she muttered affectionately, "Look at you. You must be too tired and didn't have enough rest..."

Lingfeng had straightened him as she hit him rapidly on his back with her fingers to revitalize his energy channels as she comforted him anxiously, "How are you feeling now? Much better?"

Yi Ping was so moved by affectionately attentions that his spirits was aroused warmly that he said aloud, "I am really good..."

Han Lin said, "Good! You just give me a good scare. Let's us hurry into the Stellar Sanctuary. I am dying to see what is inside!"

The rest of the maidens soon became enthusiastic as they eyed the darkness of the entrance with caution!

Yi Ping was soon looking at the towering crimson gate of the Stellar Sanctuary even as he muttered a quick prayer for the dead.

Lingfeng said, "If the sealed gate of the Stellar Sanctuary has already been opened, that will only mean that others are already inside."

The Universal Old Man was trembling lightly even as he was saying, "Even though we are late by only one day but this is the first time that I have got almost three months to explore the Stellar Sanctuary. Excellent, excellent..."

Lingfeng immediately warned them, "There is an inscription on the sealed crimson gate. It is forbidden to speak of your experiences in the Stellar Sanctuary or you surely will die. Don't say I didn't warn you. In the past there are some practitioners that did not take this threat seriously and they had all lost their lives. The only time that we can openly share our experiences is when we are in the Stellar Sanctuary. In fact that is why the Stellar Sanctuary is also called the Great Forbidden Place. I am also not sure if it is divine forces or curses at work here but where we are stepping into is actually the boundaries of the Immortal Realm. So don't be fooled by the exterior appearance of the Stellar Sanctuary!"

The Sagess Ai was startled as she thought, "She actually know this much?"

With quick nods and approvals from everyone, the group immediately stepped into the entrance of the Stellar Sanctuary!

The inside of the Stellar Sanctuary was equally imposing with tall stone pillars etched along the side of the long hallway.

The height of the hallway measured some sixty meters tall and twenty meters wide!

Yi Ping was stunned at the grandeur of the place as did all the first timers among the group!

Even though it was the first time that Yi Ping had entered the Stellar Sanctuary but he had a familiar feeling...

Yang Min gasped, "So this is the Stellar Sanctuary! Who will possibly want to build such a large hallway? This doesn't seem like it is meant for us..."

As she gasped out, her soft echoes began to reverberate in the hallway!

Lingfeng whispered softly, “Everyone be careful and don’t touch anything strange. Make sure that we are always in a group...”

The Sagess Ai was also issuing the same commands, “Stay together as a group and look out for one another...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden had suddenly drawn out her Celeste Wind Divine Sword with a brilliant light as she warned everyone, “There is stench of blood ahead!”

At the end of the hallway was a flight of stairs made of huge solid blocks of grey stones that clearly marked an entrance at the top.

Immediately the entire group quickly made haste as they ascended the long flight of steps!

When they reached the entrance, they were greeted by a gigantic huge chamber that was in similar gigantic proportions as the hallway behind them.

But only this time, there was a huge black stele and lying all over the gigantic chamber were dozens of dead bodies!

Yang Min immediately turned pale as she took a step back in horror!

Even Jing’Er was flabbergasted but it was not from the scene but from one man that was lying next to the gigantic black stele!

A dead man!

The dead man was none other than the Bai Liangong, the Martial Grandmaster of the Martial Deviant Clan!

He had died a gruesome death and his heart had been torn out of his body!

Yi Ping muttered as he took slow steps forward, “What is he doing here?”

Yang Min had quickly regained her composure as she dashed past Yi Ping to give the dead body a kick as she cried out, “Good! You are finally

dead! You have ruined me!”

Everyone quickly fell into silence as Yang Min vented out her bitterness...

Finally the Celeste Wind Maiden quietly stepped forward to stop her, “That is enough...”

Yang Min burst out into tearful sorrows as she turned around.

Because Yi Ping happened to be standing behind her and also because she needed a shoulder to cry on, she fell into his embrace as she cried out incoherently!

Yi Ping was stunned when Yang Min had suddenly dashed into his embrace.

He was even more flustered when Jing’Er and Shi Shi had also surrounded him in an attempt to console Yang Min!

The Celeste Wind Maiden had kneeled down to examine the dead Martial Grandmaster before she said quietly, “He was killed by the Soul Chaining Aerial Fingers.”

Lie Qing nodded after making the same observation as she said, “In other words, he was killed by Yong Le the Right Martial Protector.”

Lele had drawn the same conclusion as well, “Internal strife. This sort of thing is always happening. But why would Yong Le wants to kill him?”

Youxue looked at the Goddess Isa as she said, “If the Martial Grandmaster is not injured by the Goddess Isa’ ruse, he would not be in this state.”

By now Yang Min had composed herself as she said with a deep flush after realizing that she had been crying in Yi Ping’s embrace, “The dead here are mostly those that are loyal to the Martial Grandmaster. I have recognized most of them. Yong Le...has always been ambitious. I am not surprise if he did that. There are three other exits in this chamber. He must have taken one of these exits.”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said, “Yong Le is one of the seven most

formidable fighters in the Celestial Realm. I am even more surprised that he is able to heed under the command of another for so long.”

The Sagess Ai laughed softly, “Xiao Qian, surely you are not thinking of leaving the Celestial Aiel Sect and to establish your own clan?”

The Celeste Wind Maiden said coldly, “Perhaps.”

Han Lin laughed, “I hope that you are not serious. But if you are, maybe you can consider asking me as well!”

The Sagess Ai hummed coldly, “Han Lin, do you know what the rules are for betraying your own clan?”

Han Lin simply said, “I really can’t remember! Jing’Er please help me to say something in fairness!”

But Jing’Er was looking at the black stele monument silently. She seemed to be completely mesmerized by it!

Finally she gasped out, “There is a celestial sealing within this stele monument...”

Everyone’s attention was already on the black stele monument!

The Universal Old Man nodded as he pointed at the black stele monument, “This black stele monument must be familiar to some of you here.”

Lingfeng, Han Lin and the Sagess Ai nodded at the same time...

Yi Ping smiled weakly, “What does it says?”

Lingfeng laughed softly, “I know you will say that!”

Lele sighed softly as she muttered incoherent, “I don’t understand it too...”

Youxue was also smiling weakly...

The Universal Old Man laughed, “Let me show you!”

Yi Ping was bewildered, “Show? How?”

All of a sudden the Universal Old Man hit the black stele with an

execution of his Ultrapowerful Force with a mighty impact as he shouted, “Like this!”

Immediately there was a thunderous martial force explosion that shook the vicinity!

The martial power of the Universal Old Man was startling!

Yi Ping was startled for the explosive impact of the Ultrapowerful Force matched the Asper Divinity Horizon Hand!

The Universal Old Man laughed jovially, “I have just overcome my divinity calamity so therefore I don’t need to conserve my true strength anymore!”

He stole a look at the Sagess Ai who was utterly stunned by his martial display and he was immensely proud of himself!

While the monument black stele did not even bulge at all from the sudden manifestation of the Universal Old Man’s martial force, the entire chamber was suddenly vibrating furiously as though an earthquake had suddenly occurred!

Suddenly the gigantic chamber appeared to be moving and shifting shape!

When it had ceased, a black portal had appeared from one of the walls in the black chamber!

The Sagess Ai asked, “What is this?”

The Universal Old Man laughed, “This black portal will take us directly to the upper levels of the Stellar Sanctuary!”

Yi Ping was astonished as he asked, “There is a shortcut?”

The Universal Old Man nodded, “It is only discovered by the Heaveness on our third attempt here. This shortcut will be able to take us to the tenth level of the Stellar Sanctuary. This will save us the time and get us ahead of the others. Do you know that the first ten level of the Stellar Sanctuary is like a gigantic maze? It is because the floors and levels of the Stellar Sanctuary are always changing every now. If we are not careful, we

will either be lost or died from its numerous traps.”

Han Lin clapped her hands as she exclaimed happily, “Wonderful! There is a shortcut!”

The Sagess Ai was looking at the Heaveness as she asked, “You have actually discovered this shortcut?”

Lingfeng looked at her curiously, “Don’t tell me you did not know about that?”

The Sagess Ai sighed sheepishly, “I really did not know...”

Lingfeng said quietly, “At the thirty level of the Stellar Sanctuary, there is an inscription that describes how to do so. You have to hit the formation center of the black stele with enough martial force. Failure to do so will result in a severe repercussion.”

The Ultrapowerful Force was an external martial power skill that released a tremendous amount of martial force with a single impact!

The Universal Old Man laughed jovially as he said to everyone, “Come let us hurry and enter this portal!”

He had already dashed into the dark portal!

Yi Ping hesitated for a while because he could not see past the portal but it did not take him long enough to follow right behind the Universal Old Man.

As Yi Ping dashed into the portal, he could feel an electrifying sensation tingling through him and he was immediately surrounded by darkness!

While he was startled, he was not afraid at all.

In that split second, he could see the stars beyond the darkness!

But before he could appreciate the beauty of the dark heavens, he was pulled into a bright light and he found himself staggering forward in another gigantic chamber!

The Universal Old Man was smiling at him as he laughed, “Do you feel wobbly? Don’t worry, it will past quickly!”

Yi Ping smiled weakly at his protégé master as he looked at his surroundings keenly. He did not feel wobbly but rather, he had a weird familiar feeling about it. As a matter of fact, he was reluctantly to leave the darkspace!

He was soon joined by the other maidens who had all stepped forth from the dark portal.

Only Lingfeng, Lele and the Goddess Isa did not seem to suffer from any ill-effects as they exited from the dark portal but for the rest of the maidens, they appeared to be nausea and were holding each other weakly!

Jing'Er and Yang Min seemed to be hardest hit. They were extremely pale!

Yixian looked at the gigantic pillars quietly as she said gently, "This place is like the same place that we have come from but is only subtly different. There are many stone beasts that are engraved in the walls here."

The Sagess Ai nodded as she said quietly, "That is where the Stellar Sanctuary really becomes very dangerous. Welcome to the true face of the Stellar Sanctuary..."

Youxue had immediately noted that there were seven passage ways and she had an uneasy feeling all of a sudden...

Yi Ping asked, "So we can take this dark portal back to the first floor?"

The Universal Old Man laughed, "Unfortunately it is a one way portal. We can only move forward and never backward."

Yi Ping muttered, "We can only move forward from now on..."

Lele had walked quietly next to the Goddess Isa, "Hey! Do you care to shed some clues for us in the Stellar Sanctuary? Surely with your attainment, you must be really experienced way in and way out in this place. It is not forbidden to share this knowledge now that we are in the Stellar Sanctuary?"

The Goddess Isa was startled that Lele had dared to approach her

without feeling intimidated by her icy cold aura and moreover Lele did not seem to be suffering from any ill-effects!

She asked Lele, "Impressive. You are not affected by the Heavenly Stellar Formation."

Lele laughed softly, "I have seen even more impressive formations than this. This is nothing to me. You haven't answered my question yet."

The Goddess Isa replied coldly to Lele, "Don't ask me. I have never been to the Stellar Sanctuary before."

All of a sudden Yi Ping, the Universal Old Man and Lingfeng the Heaviness were stopped in their tracks by her sudden proclamation!

The Universal Old Man stammered, "You have never been to the Stellar Sanctuary?! Then how did you get your divine sword and achieve such a stunning level of attainment?"

The Goddess Isa may be able to hide her real state of divinity but when she had fought with Yixian the Celestial Fairy previously, her true level of divinity was revealed to be an Ancient Celestial!

Maybe even higher!

That was the conclusion of Yixian and Lie Qing after the duel!

Lie Qing was the first to ask this question, "In my opinion, the fighting level of this Goddess Isa exceeds anyone that I have ever seen. Though Shen Xingyue is able to move as fast as her but she is not able to defend and attack at the same time while she is doing speed attacks..."

Yixian closed her eyes as she visualized the battle with her again as she replied gently, "When I am fighting her, I can feel the surge of her martial skills. But that is not her limit. I can feel it. Or rather, she seems to be restricted by her internal injuries. And when I..."

She hesitated briefly for a while before saying firmly, "When my Heaven Eyes is opened, I can feel that I can still go further beyond my speed. However, my mind is strong but my flesh is weak. In the end I am still unable to go beyond my physical limitations. That is why I think that if

the Goddess Isa isn't injured, she can still stretch her physical limits even further."

Lie Qing shuddered when she had thought of that, "So you think that this Goddess Isa is really an immortal practitioner like the Goddess Celestial Alice?"

Yixian nodded.

Lie Qing concluded softly, "If there is one immortal practitioner then there must be others too..."

Yixian said, "And it appears that it is the immortal practitioners that have guided the celestial practitioners from the lower realm to this realm which we call the Celestial Realm."

Lie Qing asked, "If so then they must be also thriving to reach an even higher realm than the Celestial Realm?"

Yixian said, "May or may not be the case. We don't know their true purposes yet or maybe they are testing us..."

Lie Qing said unhappily, "I don't like this feeling at all. It is like someone is watching us."

Back to the present...

Lie Qing said to the Sagess Ai, "And you too. Do you think you can fool my eyes? Or shall I call you the Goddess Aiel instead?"

Lie Qing looked at the Sagess Ai before looking at the Goddess Isa, "So my two goddess, am I right to say that the two of you are no strangers to each other? But how long exactly have you known each other?"

The Sagess Ai hummed coldly.

Lie Qing said coldly, "What interesting feud did you have with each other?"

The Goddess Isa looked shyly at Yi Ping before she said aloud, "Aiel, you don't have to tell them anything. It is our personal feud. It is none of their concerns."

All of a sudden the Sagess Ai completely paused in her tracks as she turned around to ask Lie Qing, “Who is the one that instigate you? The Heaveness?”

Lingfeng hummed softly, “Definitely not! I am not interested in your affairs!”

She smiled alluringly as she looked at the Goddess Isa, “But as for her, I will be delighted to know her who she is really is.”

The Goddess Isa smiled coldly, “You think you are able to?”

Lingfeng smiled alluringly, “Since you are new to the Stellar Sanctuary therefore I must warn you first that having mutual trust is important here.”

Youxue smiled coldly, “Sister Lingfeng is right. Don’t you think so too, Brother Ping?”

Yi Ping sighed softly as he looked at Youxue and Yixian, “As long as they did not harbor any ill-intentions toward us, it is really their secrets. Let’s us not forget how the Celestial Mistress had helped us so surely she is not our foe. As for the Goddess Isa, we could not have possibly escaped from the camps of the Martial Deviant Clan unscathed without her aid.”

While Yixian gave a slight nod but Youxue continued to smile coldly as she said unconvinced, “I do want to believe that she has good intentions but don’t you think that it is too bizarre if we do not question her? Fancy the Celestial Mistress of the Celestial Aiel Sect that we all know as enemy of the major celestial orthodox clans has now become the Sagess Ai who is actually one of the two Ascendant Custodians of the Holy Ascension Sect?”

Youxue had suddenly shot her mesmerizing eyes at Lingfeng, Yi Ping, the Sagess Ai and the Goddess Isa as she said coldly, “Does the Heaveness knows her as the Celestial Mistress, the Sagess Ai or the Goddess Aiel?”

Lingfeng replied with a soft sigh, “The Sagess Ai. I didn’t know that the Goddess Aiel and the Sagess Ai is actually the same person. But I do know who is the Goddess Aiel. The Goddess Aiel is the high priestess of the

Eternal Goddess Celestial Alice, the Goddess of the Pangu Clan and she dwells in the Celestial Realm...”

Lingfeng hummed coldly, “I must say what a surprise.”

The Universal Old Man immediately rushed to defend the Sagess Ai, “That is only because she did not want anyone to accord her any special treatments...”

Lingfeng the Heavenness smiled alluringly, “Oh really? The Goddess Aiel led us on a crusade against the Dragon Clan and promises us a place in the Celestial Realm. But she had remained on the lower realm. What is her purpose?”

The Universal Old Man pointed out, “That not possible. You know that she is in the Celestial Realm with us or else we wouldn’t have acquainted with her. For a time we have even fought against the monstrous denizens of the Celestial Realm together!”

The Sagess Ai hummed coldly, “I am glad that you still remember that.”

Lingfeng ignored her while continued to say coolly, “When she had first appeared to us, she had with her a divine sword, the Heavenly Tears Divine Sword. But she doesn’t have that sword anymore...”

The Universal Old Man laughed merrily as he pointed at Yixian, “That is because the Celestial Fairy has her divine sword now!”

Lingfeng nodded, “And that divine sword is known as the Heavenly Earth Sword. It is also the founding heritage artefact sword of the Melody Palace!”

The Sagess Ai laughed softly as she turned to glance at Han Lin, “So what then?”

Han Lin smiled weakly, “Yes, so what?”

Lingfeng looked at them piercingly, “She can’t possibly appear in two places at the same time. When we found a way back to the lower realm, a Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears had already founded the Melody Palace. And the Heavenly Earth Sword was left behind in the lower realm. That is

to say, our Goddess Aiel here can move freely between the two realms...”

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “So what? That is not really a great feat. If I want to, I can traverse to the lower realm too.”

Lingfeng snapped her fingers, “Only the immortal practitioners can do that!”

The Goddess Isa replied quickly, “Not all obviously. The Icy Dragon Maiden is also an immortal practitioner. She can’t do that for sure.”

All of a sudden she had noticed that everyone was looking at her with startled expressions!

She asked curiously as she blinked her eyes, “What is wrong?”

Han Lin moaned, “You shouldn’t have said that and now...”

Lie Qing continued for her, “...everyone knows that the three of you are immortal practitioners!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden looked at Han Lin and the Goddess Aiel coldly, “To think that we have been together for so long and only today did I know that you are immortal practitioners. Very good, very good!”

Jing’Er was flabbergasted, “Our Celestial Mistress and Han Lin are immortal practitioners?! So is the Goddess Isa?”

Lele demanded an explanation, “Han Lin, why didn’t you tell us?”

Lingfeng asked coldly, “So may I know what brings three immortal practitioners to the Stellar Sanctuary if it isn’t for the immortal practice intricate heart formula?”

The Universal Old Man was stunned, “Ai...Aiel...is an immortal practitioner?”

Yi Ping was stammering, “You are all immortal practitioners?”

Lingfeng explained to him, “If they are immortal practitioners then they are one step ahead than anyone of us. You must know that since time immemorial, mortals have been thriving to reach the Celestial Realm. And these practitioners are known as the celestial practitioners. But for

those immortal beings that we know that are from the Celestial Realm, they are known as the immortal practitioners and they have been trying to ascend to a higher realm which we all known as the Immortal Realm.”

The Universal Old Man nodded, “But alas! For the Ancient Celestials like us it is too hard for us to fathom the mysteries of a higher state of divinity without any guidance. In order for us to translucence this realm, we have to thrive to ascend to the Immortal Realm. But we are not in a real sense the true immortal practitioners like the Goddess Celestial Alice who can remain indefinitely in this realm. It is because our divine calamities simply get more and more powerful each time...”

The Goddess Isa interrupted softly, “You are partial right and partial wrong. Like you, we also have our own heavenly tribulations to overcome and cannot remain here indefinitely. But one day, we will surely ascend to the Immortal Realm because that is our given destiny!”

She seemed to be so sure of that!

Yi Ping, Lingfeng, the Universal Old Man, Youxue, Shi Shi, Jing’Er, Yang Min, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Lie Qing, Lele and Yixian were all startled!

It was because they were all equally surprised that the immortal practitioners were not spare the heavenly tribulations!

The Universal Old Man asked, “If the immortal practitioners also have their own share of the heavenly tribulations then how did you manage to survive for so long...”

Yi Ping murmured as he recalled the dark abyssal vortex that he had seen in the Astronomic Stellar Formation, “That is right...”

The Goddess Isa had a spark in her eyes as she said, “Heaven’s secrets. It is forbidden...”

But Yi Ping simply said out of the blue, “That is because they have a way to delay the inevitable through their superior divine state. In reality, the divine calamities that occurred to us are the same as them. So in a real sense, they are able to stay on for indefinite even when we have all passed on.”

The Goddess Isa, the Goddess Aiel and Han Lin turned pale immediately!

Judging from their startled expressions, Yi Ping had made the correct guess!

But before Lele, Lie Qing or even Lingfeng could question further, there was a thunderous roar that shook the entire chamber!

Almost immediately, an overwhelming killing malevolent was piercing the hearts of everyone present!

Lingfeng, the Universal Old Man and the Goddess Aiel were suddenly warning panicky, "Everyone find a place to hide immediately!"

The Heaviness and the Goddess Aiel had immediately scale up to the ceilings of the gigantic chamber with a few quick movements while the Universal Old Man was cursing as he ran up a stair, "I should have focused on my lightness skills..."

Something terrifying was approaching them!

Chapter 138: The Ultimate Heavens Encompassing Stroke!

Lingfeng commanded sternly, “Even if we have to split, run first!”

The Goddess Aiel was also issuing the same warning, “A divine beast is now approaching. The Heaveness and I will try our best to delay it. Quick, go!”

The two former rivals were actually working together for the first time!

The Universal Old Man was shouting, “Those who are slower, quickly run to the nearest passage and don’t look back! There is no time to lose!”

Yi Ping was startled as he turned back to look at Lingfeng and the Goddess Aiel, “Lingfeng!”

But Lingfeng pretended not to hear him!

Youxue, Shi Shi, Jing’Er, the Celeste Wind Maiden, Yixian, Lele, Lie Qing and the Goddess Isa had all stopped in their tracks when Yi Ping had suddenly turned back to confront Lingfeng and the Goddess Aiel!

The Universal Old Man was startled as he shouted, “What are all of you doing?!”

Every moment was precious!

At a few blinks of an eye, these martial practitioners could move hastily away and mystified non martial practitioners.

But at this moment, every second that had passed was crucial; that was because a terrifying monster was also approaching them with speed that matched these super martial exponents!

And by pausing in their tracks, they were wasting these precious seconds that they could use to make their escape.

But now it was too late!

A gigantic white beast with a fiery mark on its head had suddenly appeared from the furthest passage; it looked like a tiger except that it

was ten times larger than a normal size tiger and had a pair of protruding long white fangs!

Yi Ping was startled at the size and ferocity of this gigantic beast that looked like it could snap his head with a single bite!

While startled, he was not afraid.

Compared to the black kirin that he had fought in the Astronomic Stellar Formation, this gigantic white beast seemed like intimidating but no less dangerous. However Yi Ping's courage had always been like steel.

He had already brandished the Celestial Alice silently and was about to charge at the gigantic beast when he was startled by two maidens by his side; it was Han Lin and the Goddess Isa!

The Goddess Isa was smiling sweetly at him, "Just like old times, isn't it? When we have rebelled against the Gods, we have fought together..."

But she quick smiled, "This is a rare divine beast and a powerful one. If I can get a Heavenly Relic when it dies, I may be able to restore my heavenly armor..."

Yi Ping was startled, "A divine beast?!"

Han Lin laughed jovially, "It is one of the four most powerful divine beasts despite its small size. Usually we won't encounter it in the lower levels of the Stellar Sanctuary. Yi Ping, are you afraid now? Let big sister takes care of you!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly for she did not look any older than him.

Again Yi Ping was startled when Yixian, Lie Qing, Lele, Shi Shi, Jing'Er, Yang Min and the Celeste Wind Maiden had also stepped quietly behind him!

Lie Qing laughed softly, "Surely you are not thinking of fighting alone?"

Lele added, "Don't forget we are in here together!"

Yixian looked at Yi Ping tenderly, "They are right!"

Even Lingfeng and the Goddess Aiel were beside Yi Ping in an instant!

Lingfeng smiled, "Since you want to die, you need some company right?"

The Goddess Aiel was trembling quietly, "This is the White Tiger Divine Beast. Its hide is as hard as steel. We should exercise absolute caution..."

Lingfeng muttered out, "This White Tiger Divine Beast is more powerful than the Kirin that we have seen in the Astronomic Stellar Formation..."

The Universal Old Man was smiling weakly as he ran back, "Good grief. You are all so foolish!"

The White Tiger Divine Beast had actually paused in his track when it had caught sight of them.

All of a sudden it gave a terrifying resonant roar that was likened to a martial shout!

Immediately everyone reacted intuitively by defending with their internal martial arts and intricate heart formula!

The martial roar was so powerful that those without epitome internal arts to protect them could feel the flow of their vital energies reversing its flow!

Jing'Er and Yang Min immediately coughed out blood as they stumbled backward!

Shi Shi gave a startled outcry as she immediately hit their backs furiously to clear their vital channels!

Yi Ping was startled but he knew that there was no time to run because the White Tiger Divine Beast was upon them in the next instant with a single leap!

This gigantic divine beast was startling agile despite its size!

Yi Ping leapt back when the White Tiger Divine Beast had pounced on them.

He had narrowly managed to evade the sudden attack but Lie Qing, Youxue, Lele and the Universal Old Man were knocked back and hit the wall with a thunderous impact!

Lie Qing had just raised her Invincible Divine Force when she got struck!

Protected by her Golden Impervious Body and the defensive globes of her Invincible Force, Lie Qing managed to absorb most of the impact but she was left in a daze!

It was because the force that had struck her was so startling that it broke through her Invincible Divine Force!

Lele had underestimated the divine beast that she was fighting. When she had realized how agile it was, it was too late. She had to raise her Celestial Force to its fullest so that she could neutralize as much of the impact as possible.

Like Lie Qing, she could barely stand after receiving such a hard knock!

The Universal Old Man had mustered all his martial power with both hands as he displayed the Ultrapowerful Force but no sooner had he forwarded his Ultrapowerful Force, the White Tiger Divine Beast had brushed him aside with in an explosive force!

Yi Ping shouted panicky, "Qing'Er, Lele, Protégé Master!"

The Goddess Isa had raised her long sword and had slammed it into the ground just in time to block the mighty attack of the White Tiger Divine Beast. The brutal force of the attack was so powerful that a thunderous tremendous force occurred at the same time!

At the same time Yi Ping had raised his martial power to execute the Ultrapowerful Fore to hit the White Tiger Divine Beast as he made a piercing thrust with the Celestial Alice!

The White Tiger Divine Beast roared with raging pain as it slammed with lighting speed in retaliation against Yi Ping!

Yi Ping immediately split the Celestial Alice into the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice into a cross above him as the iron paw of the White Tiger Divine Beast came slamming down onto him!

He immediately mustered all his martial strength but it was too much

for him as he coughed out a bout of blood!

Just when he was almost depleted of his strength, Lie Qing and Yixian were at his side as they tanked against the crushing paw of the White Tiger Divine Beast together!

Lie Qing had raised her divine sword and hovering around her were ten faint blue spheres!

Yixian had unsheathed the Heavenly Earth Sword and had pierced the paw of the White Tiger Divine Beast with her Divine Emerald Skill!

Yixian's forehead was glowing with a blue insignia and her long raven hair had turned light blue!

And around her was a martial force that was spiraling upward against the divine strength of the White Tiger Divine Beast!

She had displayed the Absolute Defense of the Divine Emerald Skill!

The Celestial Fairy said weakly, "Ping'Er, are you alright?"

Yi Ping was startled, "Xian'Er, Qing'Er!"

Lie Qing smiled weakly as an irresistible force was crushing down onto her, "Don't worry. I am alright. We can win..."

Yi Ping was anxious despite what she had said. It was because she was one of the first to be hit by the White Tiger Divine Beast!

The White Tiger Divine Beast became enrage as it withdrew its paw and slammed it down upon them again!

At the same time Lingfeng, the Goddess Isa, Youxue, Lele, the Celeste Wind Maiden and the Goddess Aiel were hitting the White Tiger Divine Beast with all their killing techniques hoping to distract it!

Their puny attacks managed to slow down the White Tiger Divine Beast as Yi Ping, Lie Qing and Yixian leapt out of danger before the powerful paw of the White Tiger Divine Beast hit the ground with a crackling powerful impact!

The Goddess Isa raised her long curved sword as she evaded blow after

blow from the White Tiger Divine Beast while warning aloud, "This is a divine beast. It is impervious to most attacks, including our divine swords!"

But while she was warning the others, Han Lin, Lingfeng and the Goddess Aiel were all hit by the White Tiger Divine Beast and they were sent flying backward!

The divine strength of this White Tiger Divine Beast was simply too irresistible!

Yi Ping coughed out more blood in his anxiety when he saw that Lingfeng had taken a brutal hit!

Yi Ping was still trembling from the earlier exchange but he mustered his entire strength as he hit the face of White Tiger Divine Beast with the Asper Divinity Horizon Hands!

Three bursts of martial force exploded around him as he leaped and hit the face of the White Tiger Divine Beast with a large resounding impact!

Even though the martial power of the Asper Divinity was earthshaking, there was no significant impact to it at all!

But before the White Tiger Divine Beast could react, Yi Ping had sliced a dozen slashes against it with the Celestial Antonym Alice and the Celestial Synonym Alice!

The slashes were furious, swift and exploded into furious martial force!

But still, it was not enough to pierce through the hide of the White Tiger Divine Beast which was harder than steel!

All of a sudden the White Tiger Divine Beast had struck him and had flung him hard against the walls!

Yi Ping coughed out more blood as he tried to pick himself weakly but he soon stumbled to his knees on the ground; he had barely any strength left now and some of his bones seemed to be broken too!

The Goddess Isa gasped aloud when she saw Yi Ping flying and slamming with a thunderous bang against the white celestium wall!

That distraction was fatal; the White Tiger Divine Beast struck her with its paw and had pinned her on the ground!

The Goddess Isa coughed out blood as she landed with a thunderous impact onto the floor even as the huge paw of the White Tiger Divine Beast had struck her again and pinning her down!

In that single instant, the all-powerful battle maiden was down!

When the group began the fight with the White Tiger Divine Beast, it soon became apparent to them that the attacks of the Goddess Isa were a class above them. It was because none of them could even hurt the White Tiger Divine Beast except for her!

All of a sudden she had become the soul of their group as they attacked the divine beast with all their techniques!

But now she was down!

The battle had barely begun and their group was all but almost annihilated!

In their group, only Shi Shi was not injured but that was only because she was frantically attempting to treat the injuries of Yang Min and Jing'Er!

And now it was up to the Heaveness, the Goddess Aiel, the Celestial Fairy and the Celeste Wind Maiden that were holding the fort!

Yixian and the Celeste Wind Maiden exchanged quick knowing look at each other; they decided to make an all-out attack to free the Goddess Isa!

Almost at the same time they had flew with startling speed as they slashed furiously at the White Tiger Divine Beast!

Youxue had suddenly flashed to the White Tiger Divine Beast as she hit it with a smashing explosive blow, "Dominating Force!"

But her dominating force could not even bulge the White Tiger Divine Beast!

The White Tiger Divine Tiger gave a hallowing roar and immediately Youxue, Yixian and the Celeste Wind Maiden were forced to retreat!

It was only then when Yi Ping had witnessed such a heartbreaking sight that Yi Ping was filled with deep remorse. His moment of hesitation had cost his group dearly!

Lingfeng had warned him, “When we have entered the Stellar Sanctuary, you mustn’t be as impulsive as before. It is because not all the denizens of the Stellar Sanctuary can be settled by force of arms. Numbers mean nothing in the Stellar Sanctuary! We can only win through guile and caution!”

Yi Ping muttered weakly, “Everyone, I’m sorry. It is all my fault...Isa...!”

All of a sudden Yi Ping managed to muster all his strength to shout, “ISA!”

There was a burst of extraordinary brilliant burst of martial force from Yi Ping and at the same time the ground beneath him began to crack with furious bursts of explosive martial force!

The Goddess Aiel was in a tricky situation and she was losing her fight with the White Tiger Divine Beast when Yi Ping had suddenly called out the name of the Goddess Isa.

Because the attention of the White Tiger Divine Beast was upon Yi Ping now, the Heaveness seized the opportunity to snatch the Goddess Aiel to safety as she lifted her fingers at the White Tiger Divine Beast!

There was a brilliant shard that seemingly knocked the White Tiger Divine Beast slightly aside!

Lingfeng mustered her Divine Invigorate Force to aid the Goddess Aiel before she asked weakly, “Are you alright?”

The Goddess Aiel could only nod weakly as she eyed the Heaveness, “That is your divine sword? You have concealed it very well...”

All of a sudden, the Goddess Aiel was startled by what she was seeing!

There was a golden insignia mark with two golden circles on Yi Ping’s forehead!

All of a sudden Yi Ping had leapt forward and did a double slash straight

on the face of the White Tiger Divine Beast with the Heavens
Encompassing Stroke and drawing blood!

Not once but twice!

The White Tiger Divine Beast roared with agonizing pain as it stumbled backward and as a result it had released its hold on the Goddess Isa.

The Goddess Isa was almost on her breaking point when the White Tiger Divine Beast had released its crushing hold on her!

She was startled when Yi Ping had lifted her soothingly to him as he asked her gently, “Isa, are you alright?”

She was even more startled when Yi Ping had touched her gently on her forehead. Immediately she could feel a renewal of her vigor and she could breathe gently again!

A fiery mark had appeared on her forehead when Yi Ping had touched her gently!

The Goddess Isa gasped in disbelief as she muttered, “My Heaven Eyes which is sealed by the Goddess Celestial Alice is now unsealed? How is it possible? Yi Ping...Dark Cosmos Lord...”

The others were less startled by the sudden awakening of the Goddess Isa’s Heaven Eyes but more by Yi Ping; he was being surrounded by golden aura and the two Celestial Alices were enveloped by a rainbow halo!

Yi Ping said quietly to the White Tiger Divine Beast, “Go!”

To the utter surprise of everyone, the White Tiger Divine Beast began to take a few steps back before it turned around to flee completely out of sight!

Lingfeng was gasping, “The Great Emptiness Translucence! He has finally attained it...”

But the Goddess Aiel was saying with trembling voice, “The Goddess Isa has awakened...for good or bad...and...”

She was staring at Yi Ping, “It can’t be...”

Han Lin had staggered weakly next to her, “Aiel, is he...”

Chapter 139: The Great Arcanum

Yi Ping said gently to the Goddess Isa, "I am Yi Ping. I am not the one that you have known..."

But the Goddess Isa tapped her fingers gently on his lips before whispering firmly, "I know it is you. Your mark is the mark as before. Your expressive eyes are the same as before. The first time that I have looked upon you, I already have the familiar feeling that it is you...and it is you..."

She paused for a while before whispering softly and her eyes were lit with delight, "You are just a badass. You still such a bad liar, ain't you?"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly, "What do you mean?"

The Goddess Isa smiled shyly, "Silly! Are you still pretending to be such a fool? If you are not the Dark Chaos Lord, you won't be able to unseal my Heaven Eyes!"

At this moment Yixian, Youxue, Lele, Lie Qing, Shi Shi, Jing'Er, Yang Min, the Celeste Wind Maiden, the Goddess Aiel and Han Lin had quietly gathered around Yi Ping and the Goddess Isa.

They were not deaf and could hear their whispered conversations!

They were bruised and were hit hard but their eyes were spirited!

The fight with the White Tiger Divine Beast may have only lasted briefly but they had all almost lost their lives!

Yi Ping's intervention could only be said to be extremely timely!

Lele was the first one to break the silence in their group as she interrupted them with a soft smile, "Ping'Er, you have opened your Heaven Eyes? Just like me! How wonderful!"

She was not blinded and like the other maidens, she had noticed that Yi Ping's divine state seemed different now. In fact, he looked differently from earlier!

But that was Lele. No powers above seemed to restraint her natural

aptitude to approach people!

Moreover that was Yi Ping, her husband!

So why should she fear him even if he seemed differently now?

Yi Ping smiled at Lele, "Yes, it does appear to be so."

Lele laughed softly, "Can I touch your head?"

Yi Ping smiled gently to her, "Why not?"

Lele laughed softly as she caressed his forehead gently, "Beautiful!"

Yi Ping asked, "Lele, are you well? How are your injuries?"

Lele sighed softly as she looked at the Goddess Isa who was still in Yi Ping's embrace, "My injuries are inconsequential. However you are holding a stranger now. I am not so glad about it."

Yi Ping was suddenly flushing while the Goddess Isa gasped shyly as she took a step backward and pretended to arrange her dress!

Youxue was looking at Yi Ping with her mesmerizing eyes as she said softly, "Brother Ping, are you alright?"

Yi Ping smiled gently to her, "Xue'Er, I am alright. Are you alright too?"

Youxue smiled mesmerizing, "Don't you worry. Am I not standing well and good in front of you now?"

She stole a glance at Yixian and Lie Qing before she said shyly, "You forget that I am protected by the Divine Emerald Skill, the Golden Impervious Body, the Icy Heavenly Tears and the Divine Virtuous Force."

She laughed softly, "I am more worried about you!"

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he looked fondly at her.

She was actually the first maiden that he had met when he had first wandered the martial fraternity. At that time she had astonished him with her startling martial power and still today, it was still equally startling!

He had always suspected that her true martial strength exceeded even

his protégé master the Universal Old Man!

It was because he had heard from the other maidens that Youxue had singlehandedly defeated Ximen Nanqing and his Dominating Aura Skill!

And she had even mastered Ximen Nanqing's Dominating Force!

Because that she had successfully merged the Icy Heavenly Tears and the Divine Virtuous Force into one, her internal arts became known as the Golden Invincible Skill.

Shi Shi the Stellar Heaven Fairy looked quietly at Xiao Youxue. That day in the garden courtyard she had actually witnessed the duel between Ximen Nanqing and her!

She could not believe her very eyes when she seen seven hovering wisps of spatial energies around her; that was obvious the Invincible Divine Force, a secret divine skill that was known only to Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress and Dugu Yunzi the new protégé mistress of the Infinity Sword Celestial Clan!

She had kept quiet because Youxue had said to her, "Dear elder sister, please don't tell anyone what you have seen. I don't want to let the others know...that I know the Invincible Divine Force..."

Youxue quickly added, "I didn't steal the intricate formula of the Invincible Divine Force from Lie Qing. The Divine Virtuous Force shares the same origin as the Invincible Divine Force. But through the epitome intricacy formula of the Icy Heavenly Tears, I am able to decipher some of the epitome secret arts of the Invincible Divine Force. It helps that I have mastered the Golden Impervious Body first."

By a freak encounter in the Astronomic Stellar Formation, Shi Shi was an ancient celestial practitioner now. But the martial level of Yixian the Celestial Fairy, Lie Qing the Heavenly Temptress, Youxue the former Endor Vixen Fairy and even Lele the Joyful Goddess surprised her to no ends!

She had remembered Yixian, Lele and Lie Qing as her former protégé disciples, as Revelation Star, Melody Star and Luminous Star. Again, fate

brought them together...

But was it simply too much of a coincidences?

Because of the White Sage?

Or is it because of the Dark Lord of the Chaos Cosmos?

Her thoughts were quickly interrupted by Lie Qing who said aloud, "Ping'Er, they are not the ones who are concern about you!"

Yi Ping muttered, "Qing'Er, you...you have not completely recovered from the last battle and alas, you are injured because of me too..."

Lie Qing smiled softly, "If I am not around, who is going to take care of you? Now that Yunzi is not around, I just have to do doubly hard!"

Lele said softly, "Sister Lie Qing! I am working just as hard too! Look at my bruises!"

She had meant it metaphorically. It was because in her present state of divinity and the opening of her Heaven Eyes to the Lesser Heavens Position, her Celestial Force was greatly augmented.

As her Celestial Force was one of most powerful internal arts and augmented by the opening of her Heaven Eyes to the Lesser Heavens Position, any bruises had already quickly vanished!

Yi Ping and Lie Qing could only smile weakly at Lele as they suppressed the urge to argue with her. It was because they were literally no match for her limitless spirit state!

Lie Qing almost wished she had practiced just as hard with her internal arts whenever she seen how spirited Lele had been!

But then Yixian was also an internal art practitioner but she did not seem to be as expressive as Lele. Or rather, Yixian was more refined and had a higher state of cultivation; her level of mental and spirit state exploded exponential when she was in battle.

It was because in a fight, most martial practitioners would conceal their true state of divinity!

The party that exhausted their state of divinity and gave way to panic, fear or hesitation would lose the fight!

In a fight, no doubt that true skills played an important part but that only represented a third of the winning chance.

Another third depended on the physical and mental conditions of the martial practitioner!

Yet another third depended on the divine state of the martial practitioner which was represented by their fighting spirit, fighting will and confidence!

A good example was Yi Ping who had persisted against stronger opponents through his undying fighting spirit!

Lie Qing giggled before she smiled affectionate at Yi Ping, "Ping'Er, you have become so strong now. You have driven away that divine beast! I think you are stronger than me now?"

But before Yi Ping could reply her, Lie Qing had fallen into his embrace!

She closed her eyes sleepily as she muttered, "That...is really a tough fight just now..."

Yi Ping nodded gently as he caressed her back gently, "That is right..."

Lie Qing had tanked for him despite her injuries earlier...

Yixian had also walked quietly beside Yi Ping as she said gently, "Ping'Er, are you well? Do you feel any discomfort?"

Yi Ping was touched as he muttered, "Xian'Er, I am well. Are you good?"

Yixian smiled gently as her heavenly eyes beamed, "I am well too."

Yi Ping turned to ask the other maidens, "Lingfeng, Shi Shi, Han Lin, and Xiao Qiao, are you well? Are the rest of you well?"

The Goddess Aiel, Jing'Er and Yang Min were secretly disappointed that Yi Ping did not mention their names while Han Lin and Xiao Qiao the Celeste Wind Maiden were secretly pleased!

Lingfeng said tenderly, "Don't worry, we have all pull through this time.

I hope that we can exercise extra caution in the future. Alright?”

Yi Ping had a sudden smile, “Lingfeng, you are so caring now. I almost cannot believe that it is you.”

The eyes of Lingfeng was extremely alluring and she expressed her irritation with a suddenly flicker of her expressive eyes, “Is this the way you are supposed to talk to your grand protégé mistress?”

Yi Ping muttered softly, “The Lingfeng that I know is always bullying me while the grand protégé mistress that I have known is always avoiding me...”

Lingfeng was suddenly startled as she looked queerly at him, “That isn’t the Yi Ping that I know. How do you know I am always avoiding you?”

Yi Ping was stumbled for words when the Universal Old Man laughed, “I must have told him somehow. My Heavenness, I have almost broken both my arms earlier. You should show a little concern for me.”

Lingfeng said none too amusingly, “You can still joke now so that only means you are still well. So why should I waste my concern for you? After all...”

She smiled at Yi Ping, “He is my husband now!”

Yi Ping was flushing now!

Youxue laughed mesmerizing, “That is right. He is our husband now...”

Yi Ping had a sudden nosebleed when he looked at Youxue; he had suddenly recalled the scene when he was all alone with her in their previous incarnations. At that time when he was the White Sage, he was locked up together with the Endor Vixen Fairy (Youxue)...

He ended up looking at her enticing eyes...

Youxue was amused, “What happens? You are thinking of something dirty?”

She emphasized her tone coldly, “You must be for sure.”

Lingfeng chipped in, “Obviously he is. What else do you think?”

Yi Ping began to stammer for words, “I...I...”

Cornered by two of the most quick cognitive brilliant minded maidens in the entire fraternity, Yi Ping was at a loss of words.

It was because he had to think doubly hard of choosing the correct choice of words before he could reply them!

Yixian said gently, “Youxue, Lingfeng. Give Ping’Er a break. We should decide quickly on our next course of action. Don’t you think so?”

Her words may be gentle but she seemed to have a mysterious hold on everyone.

Although Yixian’s light blue ravishing hair had reverted to raven black but the blue insignia on her forehead remained and it seemed to have a mysterious fixation on everyone!

It was only then that the Goddess Isa and the Goddess Aiel had taken notice of the blue insignia of her Heaven Eyes!

The Goddess Aiel gasped aloud, “The Goddess Ishtar!”

The Goddess Isa was immediately startled!

Even she had suspected that the Celestial Fairy was an immortal practitioners but that was only a guess.

But now that the Goddess Aiel had mentioned it, she was startled that the Goddess Ishtar was not only an immortal practitioner but also one of the immortal practitioners of the Goddess Theocracy!

The Goddess Aiel and the Goddess Ishtar were extremely close. When the Goddess Ishtar had transgressed the sacred laws of the Goddess Theocracy and was punished to be voided out of the Three Realms, she had given her most precious artefact, the Heavenly Tears Divine Sword to the Goddess Aiel.

That was how the Goddess Aiel came to be known as Goddess Aiel the Heavenly Tears.

The Goddess Isa immediately mused, “So even the Goddess Ishtar is also back. It seems that the days of the Goddess Theocracy are now

numbered!”

The Goddess Aiel was trembling as she held Yixian’s hands gently, “We have much to talk. Your mortal body may have perished but your immortal soul is eternal. I have often wondered when I will be able to see you again...Ishtar...”

Yixian was startled but she quickly put forth a gentle smile, “I am not the Ishtar that you know. You are not the Sister Yichi that I know too. Destiny must be playing a prank upon us. But I do hope that we can have the destiny to become good sisters.”

The Goddess Aiel clapped her hands jovially, “Wonderful!”

Yi Ping did not know why too but the scene moved him immensely!

The Goddess Aiel was smiling and her smiles were so expressive that it seemed too surreal.

It was like he was in a dream...

The Goddess Isa said quietly, “I have a presumptuous request. Join me. Aiel, join us please...”

The Goddess Aiel asked curiously, “Us? Who else is with you?”

The Goddess Isa pointed at Yi Ping, “Who else?”

Yi Ping quickly said, “Isa, let’s give up...”

The Goddess Aiel was also saying, “Isa, you can’t win against the Goddess Theocracy. You can’t win against...”

The Goddess Isa interrupted coldly, “I can’t win against the Goddess Celestial Alice just like I can’t win against her in the past? Is that what you mean to say?”

The Goddess Aiel nodded gently, “Even if you join hands with the Goddess Ishtar, it is still impossible...”

The Goddess Isa replied coldly, “The Astronomic Stellar Formation is no more. The Goddess Celestial Alice is no more. Now that I have rekindled my immortal state, we can destroy the Goddess Theocracy completely.”

She asked coldly as she looked at the Goddess Isa, Han Lin and Yixian, “You are not joining my cause? Han Lin and you? And the Celestial Fairy?”

Han Lin smiled weakly, “Can I even be considered as a true immortal practitioner? Your noble cause is too lofty for my sights.”

The Goddess Aiel smiled weakly, “Even though I was banished for transgression in the past, I am very much part of the Goddess Theocracy. The Goddess Ishtar and Goddess Astarte were voided out of the Three Realms completely for their transgression. I don’t want it to happen to me...”

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “It all depends on who is the current Eternal Goddess now that the Goddess Celestial Alice isn’t around anymore.”

The Goddess Aiel replied quietly, “The Holy Goddess Asura of the Seventh Heavens gives the heavenly edicts on behalf of the Goddess Theocracy now. But her few edicts were few in between. These immortal practitioners can’t be bothered with the practitioners that are in the First Heavens of the Celestial Realm and that include the ex-immortal practitioners that have been ex-communicated.”

The Goddess Isa had a startled expression in her eyes, “Asura? That is a surprise choice. So she is the Eternal Goddess now? The Goddess Theocracy will surely be ruined in her hands for sure. It is time to step down and give way for the other immortal factions then!”

The Universal Old Man had almost burst out, “There are other immortal factions?!” But he managed to resist the urge to do so...

Everyone especially Lingfeng the Heaveness, the Universal Old Man, Shi Shi, Yang Mi, the Celeste Wind Maiden and even Han Lin were all paying their full attention to their conversations that they scarcely dare to breathe!

It was because divine information that the Goddess Isa and Goddess Aiel were exchanging now was so precious in the Celestial Realm that the celestial practitioners nearly did not know anything about the

Immortal Realm or the immortal practitioners!

Han Lin was a Dragon Practitioner and she too, was thriving to be an immortal practitioner. Like the Ancient Celestials, the Dragon Practitioners were also promised to be revealed the secrets of heavens so that they could cultivate as immortal practitioners and become immortal beings.

That promise was hidden in the Stellar Sanctuary!

The Goddess Isa had simply assumed that Han Lin had attained as an immortal practitioner during her long absence. Or rather, in her eyes the Goddess Aiel and Han Lin were already immortal practitioners?

The Goddess Aiel said to the Goddess Isa, “As far as I know, Asuna did not proclaim herself as the Eternal Goddess. Maybe that is the reason why the other Heavens Goddesses have ordained her to be interim leader of the Goddess Theocracy. And as you have known already, the Goddess Celestial Alice is trapped in the Astronomic Stellar Formation by the...”

She paused for a while as she smiled weakly at Yi Ping, “But that is her fate. Now that she is finally gone, there will probably be a new Eternal Goddess soon enough. But no matter what, there will be upheavals in the heavens for sure...”

Han Lin and the Celeste Wind Maiden were exchanging secret looks...

Yi Ping had a painful look in his expressions as he thought of Maiden Ziyan...

The Goddess Isa had suddenly noticed the expressions that were in Yi Ping, Han Lin, the Celeste Maiden, the Universal Old Man and Lele!

The Goddess Isa asked coldly, “What is wrong with you all? Are you afraid to fight with the immortal practitioners?”

Lie Qing laughed softly as she fingered her long braid hair, “Isn’t that obvious? Are you gullible or not? It seems that even Han Lin and the Celeste Wind Maiden know about it. It seems that the Goddess Celestial Alice is still the Eternal Goddess for she had survived the collapse of the Astronomic Stellar Formation.”

The Goddess Aiel and the Goddess Isa were so stunned that they were staring blankly!

Yi Ping said gently to the Goddess Isa, "Isa, let it go..."

The Goddess Isa had suddenly burst into tears much to the startled surprise of anyone as she raised her trembling fingers rapidly as she divined tearfully, "If...Alice has indeed overcome the Astronomic Stellar Formation then...there is a chance that she may transcend beyond the sixth immortal level to the seventh immortal level..."

The Goddess Aiel was also muttering, "The sixth immortal level is the Greater Cosmos Position of the Heaven Eyes. No one has ever gone beyond the sixth level before..."

The Goddess Isa said with trembling voice, "...Except for the Dark Cosmos Lord. Beyond the Greater Cosmos Position is the Seventh Cosmos Position...the ultimate seventh sense...the true immortal awakening..."

Yi Ping nodded gently as he sighed softly but he did not say a word for his mind was in a far, far away place...

The Goddess Isa laughed hilariously as she leaned against the wall as she looked at everyone, "How can you all remain so calm? Do you not know that a calamity is going to befall you very soon?"

Lele asked immediately with sympathizing eyes, "Isa, what is wrong? What does it matter if the Goddess Celestial Alice is still around? She doesn't look so bad..."

The Goddess Isa interrupted coldly as she trembled, "She doesn't look so bad?"

She laughed coldly as she pointed at Yi Ping, "She...kills him! Now you know why?"

Lele was shocked as she asked, "Surely not? She really does not look that bad and has even aided us in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. I think if she wants to kill us all, she will surely be able to but we are all still standing here now."

The Goddess Isa hummed coldly, “That is because she is only waiting for an opportunity to free herself and overcome her heavenly tribulation at the same time! You may not believe but this is all part of her plans. She is not the Eternal Goddess for nothing. She will stop the Dark Cosmos Lord again. It is because it is the duties of the Goddess Theocracy to stop anyone from entering the Immortal Realm! Just like she had killed him once, she will do it again!”

This time everyone was shocked!

But Yi Ping continued to remain composed as he said quietly, “That is her duty. I don’t blame her at all.”

The Universal Old Man immediately asked panicky, “She will kill us all? We are many. Even if she wants to stop us, she can’t possibly defeat the whole lot of us am I right? But what is the point? I doubt very much that we can ascend to the top levels of the Stellar Sanctuary given such a short time...”

The Goddess Isa replied coldly as she looked at Yi Ping, “Maybe you can’t but he will be able to.”

Everyone was looking at Yi Ping now!

Lingfeng asked softly, “You...are you really the Dark Cosmos Lord?! You better be honest with me. You have always been honest so you have better maintain this good point of yours!”

Yi Ping smiled weakly as he said as he touched his forehead, “I think so. I have little memories of the past incarnation or maybe that is just an illusion...”

He paused as he looked around the Stellar Sanctuary and at all the maidens, “This entire place and every one of you are eerily familiar to me. It is like I have seen you before somewhere, some place before...”

He looked at Yixian as he muttered, “Revelation Star...the Goddess Ishtar...”

He looked at Lie Qing and Lele, “Luminous Star and Melody Star...”

The Goddess Isa said quietly, “Your Heaven Eyes is the same mark as the Dark Cosmos Lord and your immortal level is the Seventh Cosmos Position!”

Lie Qing, Yang Min and Jing’Er were gasping!

Lele asked, “Yi Ping’s Heaven Eyes is the Seventh Cosmos Position? The same as the Goddess Celestial Alice now?”

Lingfeng nodded quietly, “I have never seen anyone that has attained the Seventh Position but if it comes from the Goddess Isa then it must be the truth. And from the look of it, it does seem like it.”

The eyes of the Goddess Isa were bleary, “In the end, you still don’t quite remember me and what we have been through...”

Youxue said coldly, “Don’t worry. He has always been very heartless.”

Lele laughed softly, “I think so as well!”

Lingfeng however was looking at Yi Ping curiously...

Yi Ping looked quietly at the Goddess Isa, “I remember you as Isa and some memories of us fighting together. I...”

He was at a loss to explain it!

All of a sudden Lingfeng said quietly, “That is because he has practiced a divine skill known as the Emptiness Translucence and now he has managed to further this divine skill to the Great Emptiness Translucence. The intricacy heart of the Great Emptiness Translucence is the Great Reflection of the Awareness. If he is the Dark Cosmos Lord or...the White Sage...he may remember scenes of it. However that is not the true intention of this divine skill. He is just lucky that he can recall some of us. That’s all.”

The Goddess Isa asked, “What kind of a divine skill is the Great Emptiness Translucence?”

Lingfeng explained coolly, “The Great Emptiness Translucence is just a skill to remember the innate reflexes of the practitioner without thinking about it. That is all.”

She may have explained it so casually and clearly but everyone knew that there was more to the Great Emptiness Translucence than this!

Everyone divine skills had their true heart intricacy formula and uses. It was considered rude to ask even in the first place.

Lele whispered softly, "Sister Lingfeng, will you teach me the Great Emptiness Translucence?"

Lingfeng smiled, "It is not a skill that is suitable for everyone. It has taken me a long time to find the...White Sage..."

She was suddenly melancholy...

The Goddess Isa nodded quietly, "I...understand it now..."

All of a sudden she said to Yi Ping with a gentle smile, "You are Yi Ping now. As for your past, I will surely tell you more if you really want to know. But maybe not here..."

She flashed a shy look at everyone before taking a longing look at Yi Ping, "They all have sharp ears..."

Yi Ping had a deep flush as he noticed the look of her affectionate eyes. He began to rub his nose as he smiled awkwardly, "We should continue on our way now..."

The Goddess Isa added shyly, "Then you mustn't remember Alice too. She is the cause of your downfall. As for us, I am sure that we have plenty of time now to be together..."

All of a sudden she had collapsed gently into Yi Ping's arms much to the startled shock of everyone!

Lele said with great indignity, "He is someone else husband now!"

Lingfeng muttered, "I am going to give him a kick and make sure he can't walk again..."

Yi Ping dare not touch the Goddess Isa and he was trying to push her away while saying panicky, "Isa...Goddess Isa...we...I...there are others..."

Youxue said coldly, "So someone is saying that if there are no others

around then he can do it as he pleases?”

Lie Qing was muttering, “I think I am going to give up my Heavenly Temptress title to her now...”

Yang Min, Jing’Er, Han Lin, the Goddess Aiel and even the Wind Celeste Maiden were all sighing secretly at Yi Ping and the Goddess Isa; it was because they had suddenly realized while the Goddess Isa had a lot more courage in pursuing her devotions than them!

The Goddess Isa did not seem to hear them as she whispered poetically, “Yi Ping, destiny parts us but united us again. Do you think that this time we can duel celestial together?”

Yi Ping was completely stunned that he was muttering incoherently!

The Goddess Isa whispered, “The Great Arcanum...”

All of a sudden there was an earthquake as the entire place began to shake violently!

Lingfeng was startled as she explained quickly, “Someone else is here and it seems that they have just broken through this level!”

The Universal Old Man was startled as well, “So fast?”

Youxue was saying panicky, “Let’s us go quickly!”

Lie Qing took a look at Youxue before she laughed softly, “Yes, we better hurry or else all the martial and celestial treasures will be seized by the others!”

Youxue smiled enchantingly, “Isn’t that our intentions for coming here? Heavenly Temptress Lie Qing?”

The Universal Old Man asked, “So which way should we go? There are seven passages and we can’t go to the passage where the divine beast had just gone too...”

Youxue pointed at the passage that was on top of three white platforms, “Let’s try that!”

Lingfeng nodded, “If Sister Youxue says so then we should go in that

direction immediately. If there is anyone that I can entrust with my life in a maze then it is her!”

Yi Ping said awkwardly to the Goddess Isa, “Let’s go...”

The Goddess Isa nodded gently as she smiled, “Anything you say!”

Immediately Youxue and Lingfeng had reached the entrance of the passage that they were going to and they were quickly followed by the rest!

The Goddess Aiel was muttering to Han Lin, “Maybe we should exercise more caution. After all, this is the Stellar Sanctuary...”

Han Lin grabbed her, “Go! Or we lose track of them!”

Chapter 140: Trials of the Stellar Sanctuary

The passage was dimly lit but Lingfeng and Youxue had moved swiftly in front of them.

All of a sudden Yi Ping could see an entrance but Lingfeng and Youxue had stopped suddenly in their tracks.

Yi Ping and the rest of his group were immediately greeted by howling windblasts that were making its way through the imposing passage!

Yang Min was startled as she asked, "Where does the wind come from?"

The Universal Old Man smiled weakly, "Nothing is improbable inside the Stellar Sanctuary. This is one part of the trials. You shall see it soon enough!"

Lele was startled, "This is part of the trials?"

The passage had led them into a gigantic chamber with a stone platform at the end of it!

It was because the path had suddenly ended into a bottomless abyss!

Yi Ping was startled when he had caught up with Youxue and Lingfeng, "There is no path in front of us?"

Youxue said breathlessly as she turned around, "Not quite. There are two paths as a matter of fact."

Yi Ping gasped softly as he nodded slowly.

Indeed there were two paths that were in inconspicuous view!

Yi Ping stepped to the edge of the platform as he peeked into the darkness of this gigantic chamber.

That was the first path!

Even though it was a bottomless abyss that was in front of him but he could see rows of towering pillars that stood in the middle of the abyss.

The pillars were separated by a distance of five meter each and in the darkness at the other end was a stone platform with a gigantic towering

heraldry gate!

When Lingfeng saw the expressions in Yi Ping's eyes, she smiled gently. "It is exactly what you have thought. To reach that gate over there, we must leap over the top of the pillars. If we miss a step then we will drop into the abyss."

Yi Ping muttered, "This requires not only a good lightness swiftness skill but also courage..."

Youxue nodded, "And luck too. It is the strong winds here that are making the jump difficult and dangerous..."

Yi Ping looked to look at the second path which could lead them to the other side of the platform.

The second path was not so obvious for it began at the edge of the platform and was narrow. In order to walk this path, a person must lean against the wall and tread carefully.

Yi Ping furrowed his eyebrows as he stared blankly at the second path. Finally he said, "The second path seems to be the most dangerous."

Jing'Er looked nervously at the two paths before she muttered, "The winds that are on the edge seems to be blowing stronger than the middle..."

The Universal Old Man said solemnly, "Indeed! Even though the second path looks less dangerous, it is as difficult as the first path! The winds are indeed much stronger on the second path than the first. This place is a test of the practitioner's martial skills no matter which path we will eventually choose. Unless of course if you decide to give up at this point."

The Goddess Aiel said solemnly, "Jing'Er, you have never been to the Stellar Sanctuary before. Maybe this is too difficult for you. If you want to give up, that is perfectly alright. Live to fight another day..."

Jing'Er smiled.

She took a quick look at Shi Shi, Yang Min and Yi Ping before smiling, "Mistress, it is all too easy to give up. But do you know that if there are

others that come along the way here, I may not be safe either. I will come with you no matter how perilous it is. Let destiny decides my fate instead!”

The Goddess Aiel stared blankly for a while.

Even though she had an emotionless expression on her, her heart was sorrowful!

It was because she did not want to lose Jing’Er. The Stellar Sanctuary was not meant for most celestial practitioners. Originally her intentions were to delay the advance as much as possible. It was entirely possibly to be lost for months in the first ten levels of the Stellar Sanctuary...

Han Lin sighed softly for she knew what was troubling her heart but she said nothing...

Lie Qing smiled, “So all of us will have to choose one of the two paths, am I right? It does seem to be a difficult choice to make but it is actually a really simply decision...”

Yi Ping looked nervously at Lie Qing and the rest of the maidens, “The first path requires extremely good swiftness skill while the second path requires a strong foundation in internal martial arts...”

Youxue continued softly, “If a practitioner is either good with lightness swiftness skill or internal martial arts then this route is actually impassable. I wonder if there is another alternate way to that sealed gate?”

Lingfeng shook her head, “No my good sister. It is exactly as you see it now. We are lucky that we are able to find the entrance to the eleventh level so soon. It is exactly as you can see it now. The entrance will change once every full moon, Even though the trial will also change but there is no promise it will be any easier.”

Yi Ping nodded slowly as he said, “I guess that we have no other choice but to attempt it then but first let us ask the others first...”

There was an outburst of windforce that suddenly struck everyone as the Goddess Isa leapt over on top of ten pillars in a single breathe and

had reached the other end of the platform in a blink of an eye!

Yi Ping was stunned as her astonishing swiftness skill!

He smiled weakly, "We are here as a group. We ought to ask if everyone is comfortable with the attempt first."

The Goddess Isa flushed shyly. When she had heard Yi Ping muttered, "I guess that we have no other choice..." She had immediately taken off!

She was all too eager to prove to Yi Ping that she would not be a burden and could be a most valuable aide!

The Goddess Isa muttered as she took a step forward, "At most I will leap back..."

Lingfeng immediately shouted panicky, "Hold! Don't move!"

The Goddess Isa was startled by her and asked curiously, "Yes? Why?"

Lingfeng immediately said, "There is a deathtrap in the middle of this chamber! Many a practitioner has perished on their way back. It is because the winds in the middle are blowing in the opposing direction!"

The Goddess Isa had a sudden realization as she muttered gratefully, "Thanks..."

If she had attempt the backward leapt then she may risk falling into the bottomless abyss!

She was grateful to Lingfeng but she had actually forgotten to remember her name!

She cursed softly to herself, "I must remember her name. After all, she is my benefactor. If she did not warn me then I may really fall..."

The reason why she did not remember most of the maidens' names because she deemed it too unimportant!

She had been too disdainful for most of the maidens. As long as they were not immortal practitioners, she did not think their names were worth remembering!

But now she was beginning to have a second opinion!

Yi Ping heaved a soft sigh of relief as he said to Lingfeng, "Thanks..."

Lingfeng smiled alluringly, "Why are you thanking me for? Don't expect me to help you on this!"

Yi Ping smiled gently. He knew that Lingfeng was teasing him. Whenever Lingfeng was teasing him, he was surprising light hearted and was even aroused in spirits!

Since the first time that he had met Lingfeng, she had always been like this. He was actually more afraid that after she had regained her memories as the Heaviness, she would actually ignore him!

Lingfeng tapped her foot as she looked at everyone, "So who is next?"

Yi Ping quickly asked, "Is there anyone who is uncomfortable or unwell..."

Lingfeng stepped on Yi Ping's foot as she whispered softly, "What are you doing? You are deliberately going against me!"

Yi Ping rubbed his nose as he looked gently at her, "I know that you will ask the others the same next so I am just helping you to ask."

Lingfeng was flushing all of a sudden when she had noticed Yi Ping's gentle look!

She muttered, "Whatever!"

Lie Qing smiled broadly, "What an enviable pair!"

Lele said unimpressed, "Let's get going!"

Yi Ping quickly looked away from Lingfeng was flushing and he too began to flush lightly!

Lele added, "Let me try next!"

Lele had already leapt to the top of the first pillar that was in front of her and in just a few blinks of an eye she had reached the other end!

She appeared to be slowing down and even falling backward at the last two pillars which were the ninth and tenth pillar respectively!

Lele said breathlessly, "Lucky!"

Yi Ping broke into cold sweat and was relieved that Lele had managed to make it across the platform. If something happened to Lele, he really was at a loss to explain to Lele's grandfather the Jade Emperor and his daughter in the future!

Youxue said emotionlessly, "That is really such a close call. I will suggest that unless the others have the lightness skill level of the Joyful Goddess, it is better to take the second path!"

The Universal Old Man shouted amidst the howling winds, "Let me take the lead for the second path first so that you can all know what it is like. There is still time to give it up."

As he went to the side of the platform, everyone could immediately see the winds at the edge was indeed blowing very hard that even the robe of the Universal Old Man was flurrying strongly!

The Universal Old Man gave a loud martial shout, "The Thousand Weight Fall!"

Immediately a burst of martial force exploded outward!

While everyone could see that the Universal Old Man had quickly gained control of his balance but he was still taking extremely slow step forward!

They knew that the martial power of the Universal Old Man had to be astonishing for he was an Ancient Celestial and ranked in the records as one of the seven top ancient fighters. But even he was now taking slow steps!

So they could imagine the furies of the winds that were at the edge. Moreover, the Universal Old Man had not reached the narrow path that was at the edge of the wall yet and in order to reach the other end of the platform through this second path, at least three hundred steps on the second path were required!

Jing'Er smiled weakly and she could feel her knees growing weak, "This is...like taking the Divine Calamity and I am not prepared..."

Han Lin said solemnly, "It is not too late to give it up yet. The Stellar

Sanctuary is extremely perilous especially at the higher levels. It is not just the traps and trials that we have to face. There are also divine beasts and abyssal monsters. We can all get kill with just a fluke bad luck.”

Yi Ping broke into cold sweat again upon hearing Han Lin!

It was not because he was afraid!

He was never afraid of getting killed but he was fearful for all his love ones!

He muttered, “I am sorry, I shouldn’t have brought you all here...”

Yixian smiled gently, “Ping’Er, it is we who insist on coming. The Stellar Sanctuary is indeed one of the most mysterious places in the Celestial Realm. If we have missed it then I am afraid that we may have to wait for centuries for its next appearance!”

Lingfeng added, “Yi Ping, you are hesitating now. I know what you are thinking. Be strong and don’t let us distract you.”

Yi Ping could only smile bitterly because he was not able to do so!

Lingfeng continued coolly, “Now you know why the Immortal Saint of Swords and the Lord Supreme will rather take the challenges alone? While numbers give courage at the beginning of the trial especially for the unknown but for every death that you have witnessed, courage and willpower are lost. Many celestial practitioners have emerged from the Stellar Sanctuary with broken spirits!”

This was the firsthand experiences of the Heavens. It was because she had indeed lost many friends and companions in the Stellar Sanctuary!

It was only fortunate that she had been alive till now!

Yi Ping was staring blankly as he muttered, “Yu’Er, Mei’Er, Ye Yin, Xingyue, Yunzi...I wonder how you are now...”

The Goddess Aiel murmured softly, “The Stellar Sanctuary is extremely perilous not just for the celestial practitioners. Over the years, countless immortal practitioners are also killed in here...”

Yang Min gasped, “Immortal practitioners are also killed in here?!”

This revelation was not only startling to Yang Min but to the rest of them too!

The Goddess Isa immediately warned the Goddess Aiel with the Thousand Mile Resonant Mile, “Aiel! It is forbidden! They are not ready for this knowledge yet and telling them more than necessary will be detrimental to their future attainment!”

The Goddess Aiel immediately kept mum leaving everyone to look at one another with a curious look!

Youxue said as she pointed at the Universal Old Man, “Look!”

The Universal Old Man had finally reached the edge of the platform after taking twenty slow steps!

On the edge of the platform was a small ledge and the small ledge was indeed the second path!

The Universal Old Man had cautiously treaded on the small ledge with his back was facing the wall!

It looked like he could topple and fall any time!

Jing’Er was gasping, “He is so big...will he fall?”

Lingfeng said solemnly, “Not to worry. Even though his pot belly is big but he will be alright. He has gone through this trial countless times.”

Lie Qing gasped softly, “No wonder the second path is not as easy as the first. It is not only an internal art and martial power test, it is also a test of sheer perseverance and endurance! If the practitioner cannot perseverance throughout the entire path, then they will fall into the bottomless abyss below and looking at it now, it is going to be difficult.”

Shi Shi nodded slowly, “I garner that a practitioner has to overcome at least the fifth Divine Calamity to stand a chance...”

Youxue added coolly, “Even if the practitioner is able to reach the other end of the platform, they will surely be exhausted or wholly drained. Any hostile encounters in the midst of treading the path or shortly afterward will surely spell the end of the practitioner...”

The Celeste Wind Maiden continued, "...and moreover we do not know what waits behind that seal gate yet..."

Han Lin said, "But no matter what, we got to make our choices now. This is now time to put our life time martial arts to the tests."

Yi Ping said, "I will go last. Everyone be careful..."

Yixian asked, "Ping'Er, be careful too. Which path will you take?"

Yi Ping said quietly, "I have not decided yet..."

It was true.

But he quickly added, "Don't worry for me. I will surely make it across. I just want to take a closer look at the surroundings first."

Lingfeng nodded as she looked quietly at Yi Ping. Surely Yi Ping would have no problem making it across to the other end. She knew that Yi Ping was worried for them. If they did not make it across first then his spirit would not be able to quiet down. If his spirit cannot be quieten down then there is a big chance that Yi Ping would fail to make it across!"

The state of the mind was equally important in a duel. Skill, fighting spirit, courage and willpower played an equal role in it. If Yi Ping's willpower and fighting spirit suffered a setback then his concentration would be terrible and he would fail in this trial!

The rest of the maidens were all highly skilled martial practitioners and only knew it all too well!

If they want Yi Ping to be well then they must all do their best to reach the other end of the platform first!

Lie Qing laughed softly, "I will take the second path."

Lie Qing immediately took a gentle step to the side of the platform. As she inhaled deeply, five bursting blue halo burst around her!

Immediately there was a pressuring gravity around her as she executed the Invincible Divine Force!

She laughed softly and in a much less time than the Universal Old Man,

she had reached the ledge!

The Universal Old Man said solemnly to her, “Don’t say I didn’t warn you. You should conserve as much martial strength as possible. The winds will only get stronger as we approach the end...”

Lie Qing winked at the Universal Old Man, “Hurry, I am getting bored already. The winds here are only so and so only. It doesn’t seem difficult at all. I am almost fooled earlier.”

The Universal Old Man was startled as he observed her. While it took him all his effort just to speak, Lie Qing was indeed looking extremely casual!

He immediately thought, “The Invincible Divine Force is able to nullify the martial winds here?”

These martial winds were no ordinary winds and could disrupt the intricate energy channels of the practitioner and the practitioner must maintain a constant defense against it...

He was all too familiar with Lie Qing’s Invincible Divine Force by now but now he was being surprised by it?

Yi Ping heaved a soft sigh of relief when he saw that Lie Qing had little trouble with the second path. He was worried that Lie Qing had not recovered from her injuries yet.

He had felt much stronger than before and was bursting with vital energies after he had consumed the Aiel Rejuvenation Divine Pill. Similarly, Lie Qing had also consumed it and may have received a boost to her martial level.

Youxue said coolly after she took an enticing look at Yi Ping, “Oh well! Which one should I pick?”

In terms of lightness swiftness movement and internal martial art, Youxue was equally good. She looked at Yixian and Shi Shi, “Sister Xian’Er, Sister Shi Shi, shall we all take the second path? Sister Shi Shi, you can ask your sisters to come along with us too!”

Shi Shi smiled gently at Yang Min and Jing'Er as she said, "Let's go together!"

Yixian smiled and her smiles were like peach blossoms that were extremely beautiful to behold!

Yi Ping was drunken simply by beholding her!

Yixian turned to ask Jing'Er and Yang Min politely, "Maiden Jing'Er and Maiden Yang, I know that you are equally capable of making your way through to the other side. However I still like to propose that we all take the second path so that we can all take of each other? What do you say, my protégé mistresses from my previous life?"

Jing'Er and Yang Min were startled that Revelation Star was taking the second path and even offered to go together with them!

They were not fools especially for Yang Min. It was obvious that Yixian and Youxue were subtly offering to help them. They had seen their lightness swiftness skill. Especially for Yixian, her lightness swiftness skill was simply extremely astonishing and she could simply have taken the first path!

Jing'Er smiled, "Yes, why not?"

Yang Min smiled, "I am afraid that we aren't fit to be address as your protégé mistresses anymore. But yes, we can certainly make a move together!"

Yi Ping was relieved that Yixian and Youxue were offering to help Jing'Er and Yang Min...

As they moved together, Yixian and Youxue immediately displayed the Divine Emerald Skill as they contested against the martial windforce with flurries of martial windforce of their own!

In no time, they were all beside the Universal Old Man and Lie Qing as well as they lined in a single file on the ledge!

The furies of the lashing martial windforce seemed to be abated considerably!

This had the effect of lessening the pressure on the Universal Old Man. He looked at Yixian who was constantly displaying the Divine Emerald Skill with her right fingers as he thought, “The range of her Divine Emerald Force can be extended this far? It is hard to believe or it is because of the martial power of her Heaven Eyes?”

Jing’Er and Yang Min were really afraid that they may not be able to make it but when Yixian had displayed her Divine Emerald Force, they felt a soothing force that was constantly holding them and protecting them as they displayed the Thousand Weight Fall.

Yang Min’s lightness swiftness skill was not weak. In fact, it was even better than Shi Shi and Jing’Er but her confidence had suffered a huge dent when she was enslaved by the Martial Deviant Clan.

Shi Shi the Stellar Heaven Fairy was now an Ancient Celestial due to a freak incident in the Astronomic Stellar Formation. Her Thousand Weight Skill was sufficient to get her across as long as she could maintain her focus.

As for Youxue, the depth of her internal strength was startling and even absurd. She could probably rely on her Thousand Weight Skill to get her across and did not have to display the Divine Emerald Skill. Like Yixian, she was only using the Divine Emerald Skill to aid Shi Shi, Yang Min and Jing’Er!

For that, Yi Ping was extremely grateful to both of them!

The Celeste Wind Maiden said quietly, “I will take the first path.”

Yi Ping called out, “Be careful!”

The Celeste Wind Maiden smiled quietly. She dared not look into his eyes!

There was a flurry of winds as the Celeste Wind Maiden displayed her epitome lightness swiftness skill as she leapt gracefully from pillar to pillar and finally to the other end of the platform seemingly effortlessly!

Her lightness swiftness skill was one notch better than Lele!

Even though Yi Ping had witnessed her lightness swiftness skill before, he was still in awe. The ravine that she had taken them across was even harder than this...

The Goddess Aiel said, "I will take the second path."

As she walked down the second path, she had immediately executed her Inverting Universe as she calmed down the conflicting martial windforce around her.

She was soon by the ledge but all of a sudden the Universal Old Man and Yi Ping were flustered!

Yi Ping nose was suddenly dripping with blood as he muttered the intricate heart formula of the Absolute Spirits, "See no evil...evil can't penetrate my pure heart..."

It was because the dress of the Goddess Aiel was too little and skimpy. When the winds blew, this caused her dress to lift upward!

The Goddess Aiel quickly said shyly, "Don't look please..."

The Universal Old Man was sighing softly. It was because he did not have a good view...

Lingfeng said coldly, "Ai, I will help you to dig out the eyes of the offenders..."

The Goddess Aiel smiled weakly, "How vicious you are. One is your husband and the other is your close companion."

Lingfeng smiled alluring as she took a quick look at Yi Ping, "No matter!"

Yi Ping smiled bitterly as he said, "Really so vicious..."

Lingfeng stepped on his foot before aloud, "I will pick the first path then!"

The Heaveness was renowned for her unique swiftness skill and her present incarnation Lingfeng was exceptional gifted in it too!

Before Yi Ping could say a word more, Lingfeng had already made her

way quietly across to the other end of the platform as she joined the Goddess Isa, Lele and the Celeste Wind Maiden!

Yi Ping heaved another sigh of relief.

Yang Min muttered softly as she looked at the other end of the platform, "So that is the swiftness level of the Heaveness..."

After witnessing the epitome lightness swiftness skill of the Heaveness, the Goddess Isa, the Joyful Goddess and the Celeste Wind Maiden, the martial difference between them were all too apparent to her and she was secretly afraid of the trials that were in the higher levels of the Stellar Sanctuary...

Han Lin said aloud as she walked toward the second path, "It seems that it is my turn next. I will take the second option of course..."

Yi Ping called out, "Maiden Han Lin, be careful!"

All of a sudden he found himself looking silly!

It was because like the Goddess Aiel and Lingfeng, Maiden Han Lin had been to the Stellar Sanctuary on a number of occasions. Maybe to her, it was really not a big deal.

Han Lin began to blush a deep red as she smiled at Yi Ping, "I...I will be alright!"

She began to take slow steps toward the ledge.

But unlike the other maidens and the Universal Old Man who had displayed the Thousand Weight Skill, Han Lin was just taking slow steps!

This immediately got Yi Ping curiosity as he muttered, "I wonder what skill she is displaying now?"

The Goddess Aiel laughed softly as she used her Thousand Miles Resonate Skill, "This is the secret internal art of the Dragon Practitioners, the Unifying Divine Force. While not quite like the Thousand Weight Fall of the celestial practitioners, the Unifying Divine Force is able to synergy the practitioner's internal strength to that of the external force..."

She quickly added after noticing that Yi Ping seemed to be a little lost,

“In short, it is a skill that is able to minimize the impact of external forces by replicating it.”

Lingfeng was laughing alluringly, “He probably requires at least ten years to understand this martial guiding principle.”

Yi Ping smiled weakly, “It does sound like an awesome skill.”

Han Lin who had reached the ledge of the second path had overheard Yi Ping, said delightfully. “It is! Next time, let me show you more of my other secret arts!”

The Goddess Aiel interrupted, “Don’t be careless and focus on getting across to the other side first.”

Han Lin hummed coldly, “At this level, I will probably get across with just my eyes close...”

All of a sudden she gasped when she had missed a footing!

Everyone was startled and their hearts had skipped a beat as Han Lin fell from the ledge; they could do nothing but watched in horror as she plunged into the bottomless abyss!

There was a sudden flash of white blur as Yi Ping plunged into the bottomless abyss along with Han Lin, shocking everyone as they cried out for his name panicky!

Yi Ping caught hold of Han Lin and raised the Celestial Alice as he stabbed the walls with the Celestium Alice causing flickering of bursting light as they continued to fall into the bottomless abyss. The walls were impervious to his attempts even though he had used his entire martial strength!

Han Lin had turned extremely pale as she muttered weakly, “You foolish! Why did you make the jump? Now we are both goner...”

Yi Ping did not seem to hear her as he gave a loud bellowing martial shout. All of a sudden his forehead began to glow a deep golden color as he pierced through the walls with the Celestial Alice as thunderous shockwaves ripped throughout the vicinity!

The Goddess Aiel gasped, “The walls of the Stellar Sanctuary are made of Star Celestium and this type of material is only found in the Immortal Realm. He can actually pierce through the walls with his martial strength?”

Yi Ping said weakly to Han Lin, “Maiden Han Lin, are you alright?”

Han Lin replied weakly, “You shouldn’t have jumped down just like this. So what if you have caught hold of me? The martial winds here are so powerful that it is like a vortex. Now both of us have to die...”

Yi Ping pulled Han Lin to her and lifted her up to his shoulders as he muttered weakly, “Maiden Han Lin, you will be alright. I will surely save you...”

Han Lin was gasping aloud and she was flushing shyly!

It was because she was sitting on top of Yi Ping’s shoulders and she could feel her thigh rubbing against his neck!

She muttered, “How embarrassing...”

Yi Ping had broken into cold sweat as he continued to focus above him while saying, “I am going to push you to the top...”

Han Lin panicky said, “What about you then? Surely you don’t intend to sacrifice yourself? Is it worth it to sacrifice yourself? Just for me? There are so many people that are waiting for you on top...”

Yi Ping said weakly, “I will think of a way...are you ready? I can’t hold on much longer...”

He had mustered his entire martial power just so that he could pierce through the walls and he had to support Maiden Han Lin; he was almost completely spent of his strength now!

Han Lin nodded as she said tearfully, “I...I am ready!”

Yi Ping said, “Pardon me...”

He grabbed hold of her bottom and used his last remaining martial strength to push her upward!

Aided by Yi Ping, Han Lin had mustered her entire martial power at the same time as she scaled up the wall!

The truth was that her martial strength was insufficient to go all the way up as the powerful martial windforce was soon pulling her downward again!

Yixian quickly intervened by displaying flurries of windforce all around Han Lin!

Even though there was a limit to what Yixian could do and she could only neutralize the powerful martial windforce only briefly but that blink of an eye was sufficient for Han Lin to muster her martial strength again and for Youxue to lift her up again with her Divine Emerald Skill as she landed on the narrow ledge again!

She was quickly caught by the Goddess Aiel who muttered, “Han Lin, are you alright?”

But Han Lin did not seem to hear her as she cried out tearfully, “Yi Ping! You badass! You must come up at this very instant!”

She tried to see where Yi Ping was but could not. It was because the bottom was engulfed with a supernatural darkness and their voices were quickly drowned by the howling winds!

Han Lin cried out hysterically, “He is still at the bottom and is clinging onto the wall. Everyone, do something!”

The Universal Old Man shouted panicky, “Ping’Er, hold on! We will think of a way!”

Yixian, Youxue, Shi Shi, Yang Min, Lie Qing and Jing’Er were crying his name aloud as well!

And so were Lingfeng, the Goddess Isa, the Goddess Aiel, Lele and the Celeste Wind Maiden!

Han Lin gasped, “I didn’t hear from anyone of you earlier but now, it is all too clear. That only mean that Yi Ping is not able to hear from us...”

While Yi Ping was not able to see or hear what was happening above

him, he was relieved that Han Lin was now safe. That had to be the only conclusion because Han Lin had not fallen down again!

He closed his eyes as he inhaled deeply, “Is this the end of me already?”

All of a sudden he could hear the voice of the Goddess Aiel who was using the Great Whispering Divine Skill, “Hopefully you are able to hear me. I am going to use my Inverting Universe Divine Skill at the count of three. Muster whatever strength you can and leapt upward as fast as you can!”

Yi Ping’s eyes were beaming!

Hope!

He could feel some of his strength returning as his hopes renewed!

“One...two...”

He had two options.

One was to use the Celestial Alice as a spring board and dashed upward with his lightness swiftness skill...

“...three! Now!”

But he decided to choose the second option...

Yi Ping gave a great shout as he summoned all his strength. He pulled the Celestial Alice out as he mouthed a vital breathe with the Divine Revelation!

It was not because he was unwilling to part with the divine sword but because this Celestial Alice had already become part of his soul!

“The Asper Divinity!”

Three martial outburst of martial force exploded around him and temporary neutralizing the extreme hostile martial windforce that was lashing against him!

“The Celestial Antonym Alice, the Celestial Synonym Alice!”

A divine echo sung from the Celestial Alice as it split into two divine swords and two tranquil rainbow halos were radiating brightly!

The double golden circle mark that was on Yi Ping's forehead began to burn fiercely as Yi Ping divine harmonized with the Celestial Alice!

There was a vision of two golden suns that had suddenly appeared of him! And below the two suns were an endless ocean of clouds that seemed to be stretching for infinity!

But before he could ponder further, he had burst forth to the top again and landed gently on the ledge!

All the maidens were all rejoicing with bliss when they had suddenly seen him burst forth from the darkness!

The Goddess Aiel had turned extremely pale but she was smiling weakly, "You have made it..."

Han Lin was smiling too and she was shedding tears of joy, "I am sorry. It is all my fault..."

Lie Qing's eyes were fluffy as she said tearfully, "You! You have given me a good scare. Don't forget that we have vowed to be together till the oceans dried up and the rocks crumbled to dust!"

Yixian had turned extremely pale. It was because her heart intricacy formula was the emotionless rhyme. In her anxiety for Yi Ping, her vital channels had reversed upon itself!

Yi Ping muttered weakly as he looked at the forbidden looking sealed gate that was in front of him, "I am alright now...we should make haste..."

An ominous feeling awaited him behind that sealed gate!

And what was that feeling when he had divine harmonized with the Celestial Alice earlier?

What was that supernatural strength that he had suddenly felt and what was that vision of two golden suns that he had seen earlier?

Somehow he knew that the real Stellar Sanctuary only started at this point!

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